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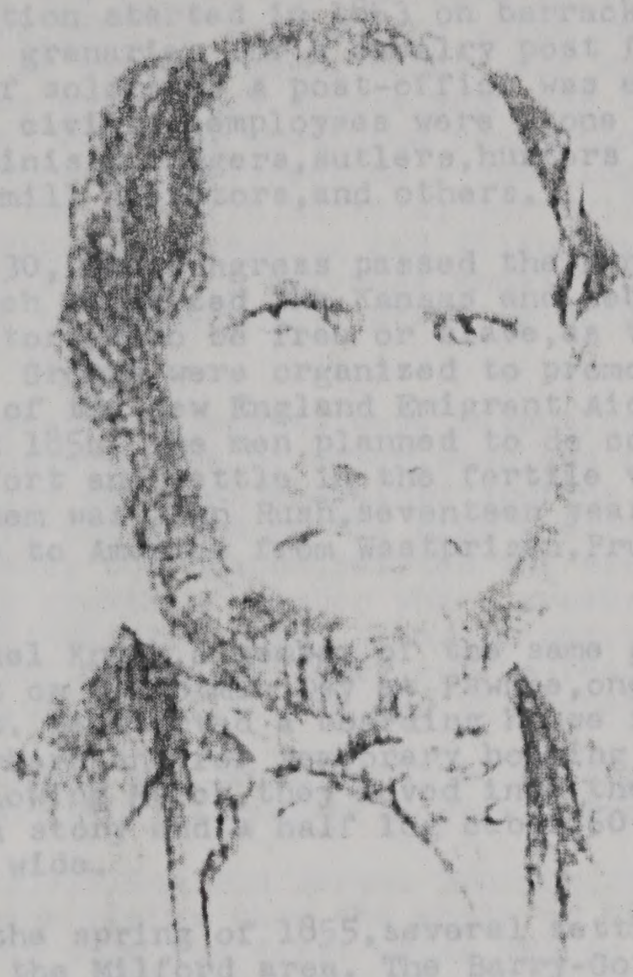
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HISTORY
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1855 - 1961

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THE NAMES AND DATES
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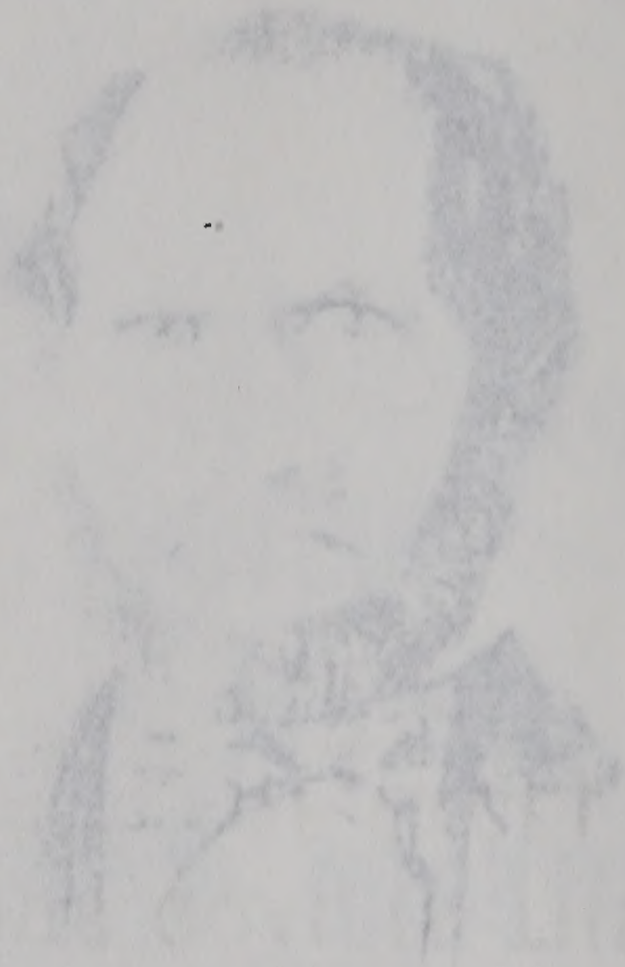


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Abraham Barry

Born in Stroudsburg,Pa.,Sept. 30,1809,and died on his farm near Milford on May 2(?),1873. He came to Kansas in March 1855; surveyed Manhattan in the spring and summer of 1855. Member of the Free-State Topeka legislature in 1856; and a member of the House in the territorial legislature in 1857,'58 and '59; first county attorney of Riley County (May 1858-December 1859). Photograph loaned by Louise Barry,member of staff of Kansas State Historical Society.

Recd. Feb 19-1979



Abraham Barry

Fort Riley was established March 4,1853 by Major E.A.Ogden. It was an outpost west of all the Indian reservations,and a buffer to the savages of the plains. Construction started in 1853 on barracks,barns,stables,and granaries for a cavalry post for eight companies of soldiers. A post-office was established. Among the civilian employees were stone masons,lumbermen,machinists,loggers,sutlers,hunters who supplied meat,sawmill operators,and others.

May 30,1854,Congress passed the Kansas-Nebraska bill which organized the Kansas and Nebraska areas into territories,to be free or slave,as the inhabitants desired. Groups were organized to promote settlements. A party of the New England Emigrant Aid Society arrived in 1854. The men planned to do construction work at the fort and settle in the fertile valleys near-by. Among them was John Rush,seventeen years of age,who had come to America from Westprisen,Prussia,in Germany.

Lemuel Knapp,a member of the same group,pitched his tent on Christmas Day at Pawnee,one mile east of the fort. He started a boarding house for construction workers and for temporary housing for newcomers. The following March,they moved into the new boarding house--a story and a half log cabin,50 feet long and 16 feet wide.

In the spring of 1855,several settlements were made in the Milford area. The Barry-Gordon party of seventeen young men reached Pawnee on March 28. They split up and each went his own way. Three came to the present site of Milford--Abraham Barry,a lawyer and hotel-keeper from Pennsylvania,his fourteen year old nephew Marshall Barry,and George Taylor.Abraham Barry and George Taylor took claims near the mouth of Madison Creek.

At about the same time,John S. and Lucinda Fowler Badger established a home on government land under the preemption right. This was six miles south of Milford along the Republican River on the Dave Weaver farm. Lucinda Badger was the first white woman to settle in this area. They had no team of their own for two years. That summer settlements were made on the other side of the river. George Montague,who had a contract for burning the lime for construction of the government buildings at Fort Riley,settled a half mile from the Badger's,with the river between. They were the best of friends for the twenty-seven years that they were neighbors. Moses Younkin also came to the Milford area in 1855. John Rush selected a home site and built a cabin for his parents who planned to come to America.

The land had not been surveyed. Land was acquired by the preemption act of 1841 which defines preemption as the "right of purchasing before others". It was extended to the Kansas and Nebraska territories by act of July 22,1854 to all land to which Indian title is or shall be extinguished. Lands were open to heads of households,widows,and single men over twenty-one.There were eight steps in acquiring preemption land:(1)personal settlement;(2)erecting a dwelling house;(3)inhabiting the lands;(4)official survey;(5)filing claim and description;(6)making and filing necessary affidavits;(7)payment of purchase money within 12 months from time of agreement;(8)granting of patent by the government.

Earliest settlements were determined by natural conditions:presence of water,wood,and rock,and the possibility of defense against Indians and outlaws. These were not found on the high prairies. Only a few trees,mostly cottonwood,skirted the river banks.There was dense growth of timber where creeks emptied into the river:walnut,several kinds of oak,mulberry,locust, red and white elm,hackberry,coffee-bean,hickory,ash, sycamore,willow,wild plum,and wild cherry.

The first settlement east of Milford was made by Daniel and Nancy Branscom on Farnum Creek.

Moses,William,and Jerome Younkin,John King,and A. D.Reed took claims near the mouth of Timber Creek in 1856. They were the first white men to settle within the limits of Clay County. Mrs.Moses Younkin was the first white woman in that locality,and their son(Edward L.)was the first white child born in Clay County.

A.B.Whiting and Bradley E.Fullington with seven yoke of oxen and a prairie schooner loaded to the canvas roof with supplies,took claims on Madison Creek in the spring of 1856. Lorenzo Gates,George Hefner, and John Forman also located on Madison Creek.

Abraham Barry of the Free-State party represented Riley and Pottawatomie Counties in the territorial legislature and was reelected in 1857 and 1858.

December 3,1856,a severe blizzard with heavy snow fall was a serious blow to the settlers who suffered untold hardships. 1857 brought more settlers,some with families,who scattered along the Republican River and its tributaries. Fifty persons including men, women and children,lived within a twenty mile radius of Fort Riley. J.S.Badger and B.E.Fullington held offices of Justice of the Peace. Francis Rush and wife (Anna Bohm) with their family arrived at the cabin

home which their son John had built for them. Rosa(Mrs. A.B.Walters) was two weeks old when they left their home in Germany. They spent six weeks in a sail-boat crossing the Atlantic. Other members of the family were Martin,Mary,Susan and Annie. The Rush farm has remained in the family name since John selected it in 1855--106 years. Clifford L.Rush,his wife (Emma Schmedeman),and their son Donald own and operate the farm.

Settlers on arriving at Kansas City,bought ox teams ($225),wagons ($75),and supplies for several months. Each family had a plow,scythe,hoe and ax. Occasional trips to Leavenworth were necessary to get additional supplies. Men took turns in making the long trip by wagon to bring supplies for the entire community:gunpowder,lead in bars,bullet molds,cartridge sticks, lariat ropes,blankets,needles,cloth,thread,quinine,tobacco,sugar,coffee,molasses,soda,dried fruit,flour, and hard tack. The need for a town was growing. Settlers needed mail service to other communities,a store to buy the necessities of life,a grist mill to make flour and meal,and organized societies of church and school.

By 1857 plans were under way to build a town to meet the needs of the pioneers. The town of Bacheller had its official beginning when it was incorporated by act of the territorial legislature in 1858. Officers of the Bacheller Town Company were:Abraham Barry (president),Bradley E.Fullington (secretary),Samuel D. Houston,Moses Younkin,and Frank Smith. It was renamed "Milford" in 1868 at the urgent request of the postmaster who was annoyed because Bacheller was seldom spelled correctly on the mail passing through his office. The name chosen was a combination of two simple words,mill and ford,which were vital to the community.

Citizens of Milford petitioned to the District Court in Junction City to have the name of the town changed to "Brinkley" in the 1920's. The judge refused because of the opposition of the Union Pacific Railroad and the United States Postal Department.

The 1859 legislature authorized Abraham Barry to keep a public ferry across the Republican River "at or within one mile of the town of Bacheller,for the space of 10 years",and also granted him "the exclusive right of building a bridge and maintaining the same at the said place,over the Republican fork,for 20 years". Equipment included a flat-bottomed boat known as a ferry,a ferry house,cable,tools,etc.,plus land for its operation. This land included a 38 acre tract adjoining Milford on the south. The tow path started on the east bank at the ferry house and crossed to the west

side at a slight angle downstream. Lowry J.Wilson purchased the ferry and all the equipment,including the land in 1877. He operated the ferry for several years. A wooden bridge replaced the ferry. George W.Miller, while serving as representative in the Kansas Legislature,introduced a bill for the authorization of the present steel bridge.

Records show that Abraham and Elizabeth Barry sold 298 acres of land in 1859 to the Bacheller Town Company for $1,000 for a town site. Names on early deeds for town lots included A.B.Whiting,A.B.Whitney, B.E.Fullington,Chas.Clark,George French,S.D.Houston, Emigrant Aid Society,E.V.Barry,Moses Younkin,William Endicott Jr.,Mrs.Mary Ellen Barry,T.Houston,Kate A. Whiting,J.C.Kennett,and Louisa C.Fullington. Lots were given to settlers brought by the Emigrant Aid Society. North and south streets were named River,Barry, Whiting,Smith,and Houston. Beginning at the south, east and west streets were numbered 3 through 9. Vacated lots and farm lots to the north,east,and south were sold in 1877.

Gov.Geary appointed Abraham Barry to the office of County Attorney of Riley County in 1858. While serving in that capacity,he was elected to and served in the 1859 territorial legislature.

Settlers were busy making homes and furniture and tilling the soil. The early homes were mainly of logs or stone,since they did not require a large amount of money. Much labor was involved. Many of the pioneers were stone masons and many were adept at working with logs. Tables,chairs and stools were made by splitting dry walnut logs,hewing and planing the rough places until satisfactory. Every home had an iron kettle with a rounded bottom which stood on three legs. The larger ones were used out-of-doors for heating water for washing clothes and for butchering,for rendering lard,and for making soap. Smaller ones were used for cooking over the fire in the fireplace or on stoves. When stoves were used,a lid could be removed from the cooking surface and the kettle could be set directly over the fire. Copper and brass kettles were available at $1.00 per pound. Early kettles came in ten sizes. Copper ones had straight sides and had lids. They were the most expensive.

Wild game was plentiful:buffalo,deer,antelope, wild turkey,prairie chicken,quail,squirrel,wild geese and ducks. Catfish,buffalo fish and other kinds of fish were plentiful in the river and creeks. The greatest food problem was that of providing flour and meal. Early settlers hungered for bread. The di-

et was limited to the simplest of foods with meat and corn meal topping the list. Everyone had a garden and seeds were carefully saved and shared for the following year. Few had sufficient clothing to protect against the bitter cold. The only boot and shoe factory in Kansas was at Leavenworth. Early settlers had more to do than tickle the soil with a hoe,and see the land laugh with a harvest. 1858 was a wet year and there was much sickness.

Frank Smith opened a store in 1859,a dream come true. 1859 was a good year;crops were abundant;the future looked brighter. The first birth occurred in the Bacheller area,that of Thomas J.Bartell. Albert Avery and Calista Whittemore were married in 1858,the first in the Timber Creek area; John T.Price and Elizabeth Badger in the Bacheller area; G.W.Waller of Manhattan and Mary Ann Thompson of Pottawatomie County,the first in Riley County. The Waller's were grandparents of J. W.Waller and Earl K.Chambers who reside at Milford. During the cholera epidemic at Fort Riley in 1855,John Price was untiring in his attention to victims of the disease. At that time he was a clerk in the quartermaster department; later he served as county treasurer from 1872 to 1876.

Samuel D.Houston of Bacheller contributed $300 toward the establishment of Bluemont College at Manhattan (now Kansas State University). The cornerstone was laid in 1859 under the control of the Methodist Church. The three story building was opened to students in 1860. Two years later the building and 100 acres of land was transferred to the state. John D. Walters,uncle of J.B.Walters and Grace Miller of the Milford community,was elected to head the department of Industrial Drawing at the college. He taught classes in geometry and trigonometry and organized the College Orchestra. Students credit him with having perfect discipline in the classroom. He served this institution over a fifty year period (1877-1927).Before coming to Manhattan,he worked as a civil engineer, decorative painter,and architectural draftsman in several states and many cities. He landed in New York in 1868 from Aetiokofen,Canton Solothern,in western Switzerland.

By 1860 this community ceased to be a frontier area subject to Indian alarms,but rumblings of the Civil War were growing more intense. During the early 60's,outlaws and pro-slavery ruffians robbed many of the pioneers.



"Union Mills" 1863-1880



"Streeter's Mill" 1883-1942





Union Mills

The New England Emigrant Aid Society sent steam mills to promising towns likely to develop into business centers. By far the largest and best was sent to the free-state town of Quindaro on the Missouri River, where it was unloaded from the steamboat. Border ruffians rolled the two big boilers into the river. They threw in other parts that they could handle. The shippers had plugged the inlets to the boilers,so they failed to fill and sink. All of the machinery was recovered later. In the spring of 1858,the Bacheller Town Company made a deal for it,giving the New England Aid Society a share of the town site for the milling machinery at Quindaro. It was brought by boat to Manhattan and hauled across country in wagons to Bacheller. The machinery was sold to three men (Clark, Pierce and Bryan) on long time payments. It was set up near the mouth of Madison Creek in 1858 or early 1859, as a sawmill,at a cost of $6,000. Samuel Cutter,who had just arrived in Kansas,helped to erect this mill. The mill did a splendid business for three years. Junction City,in its earliest stages,was built mostly from lumber sawed at this mill. The mill company failed, leaving the town company a mortgage on the property and a dozen judgments against it.

In 1863 A.B.Whiting bought it,under contract to build and operate a flour mill at the site. This was known as the "Union Mills". It was operated by steam power and could handle as much as 300 bu.of wheat in 24 hours. The mill operated for almost ten years.The same engine furnished power for a sawmill operated by J.W.C.Pierce in 1864. He had been in charge of a government sawmill at Fort Riley for seven years. Operation was discontinued in 1880 when mills changed from stone buhrs to steel rolls. The mill was dismantled: the buhrs going to Kansas City,and the boilers to Junction City.

Streeter Mill

The Streeter mill was built in 1883,three miles north of Milford near the junction of Spring Creek and Madison Creek at the center of the Fullington farm.It was built by Fullington and his son-in-law Charles A. Streeter at a cost of approximately $5,000. This mill made three grades of flour,corn meal,cereals,and feed. A son,Lyman A.Streeter of Topeka,operated the mill from 1902 to 1942,doing much custom grinding for residents over a large area.The present owner is Norman Steinbruck,but he does not operate the mill.The area near the mill has been a favorite picnic spot through the years.

A Church Is Organized

Long before settlers were able to provide comfortable homes for themselves, they worked to organize churches and to provide meeting places for religious services. Early settlers brought with them their ideals and institutions. They brought a pattern of work and worship. During these years of poverty and privation, religion played a vital role.

To Rev. William Todd, we owe a debt of gratitude for his pioneer missionary work which began in 1858 and continued for a number of years until the infirmities of age forced his retirement. He had served in Madura in southern India as a missionary, before coming to the Wakefield community. Sabbath services were kept up with more or less regularity, sometimes conducted by ministers of the Congregational and Methodist denominations, and more often as social meetings with prayers and hymns.

During the summer of 1866, the old log schoolhouse near Gifford's (Hillside) was used for regular weekly church services. Rev. Alfred North preached each Sunday and conducted Bible class study. During 1867 and 1868, Rev. Isaac Jacobus came from Junction City to hold Congregational services at Milford from time to time. People were looking forward to the time when a church could be built.

A committee was appointed in 1868 to draw up a confession of faith and covenant articles. Invitations were accepted by Congregational churches of Waubansee, Manhattan, Junction City, and the Home Missionary Society to send delegates to Milford to help organize a church. Those who came to assist with the organization on April 9, 1868, at the Milford school house were: Rev. C.L. Guild of Waubansee, Rev. Isaac Jacobus of Junction City, Rev. R.D. Parker of Manhattan, Brother A. Hunting of Manhattan, and Rev. Harvey James of the Home Missionary Society. A.B. Whiting represented the people of Milford. Seventeen pledged membership by "mutual agreement" and "personal knowledge". The "Congregational Church of Milford" was organized. It struggled along without regular preaching during the summer of 1868. That fall, Rev. C.L. Guild came as the first regular minister, one-half of his salary provided by the Home Missionary Society.

The seventeen original members were listed by A.B. Whiting, July 10, 1872, in the first permanent clerk's record--partly from memory and partly from loose sheets of records. The members as listed in the record were: Bradley E. Fullington, Louisa C. Fullington, Myron E.

Humphrey,Caroline Humphrey,A.B.Whiting,Kate A.Whiting, Daniel S.Baker,Mrs.D.S.Baker,Mrs.John Fawley,Sarah Humphrey,Chester K.Humphrey,Howard R.Humphrey,Louis E. Humphrey,Charles A.Whiting,Thomas H.North,Alice Fullington,Mrs.Flora Humphrey.

Rev.E.P.Ingersoll took charge of the church in the spring of 1869. M.E.Humphrey and A.B.Whiting were chosen for the committee on standing rules;B.E.Fullington and M.E.Humphrey as deacons;T.H.North as clerk.

The following entry in the Forty-seventh Annual Session of the Congregational Association (pages 42-43) is of local interest:

"Edward Skinner was born in Old Dalby,Leicestershire,England,August 24,1837. He commenced preaching in England when eighteen years of age. Came to America May 14,1873. Pastor of Madura (Wakefield) and Milford churches in Kansas from 1873 to December 1879.Church was built in Milford during his pastorate,which was the first church in Kansas built without missionary aid.... Died at his home in Blue Rapids,Kansas,January 8,1901."

He came with the early English settlers to the Wakefield community and took a homestead southwest of Wakefield. The southeast quarter of the same section was homesteaded by Rev.Isaac Jacobus who served the Milford Church inl867 and 1868,while residing in Junction City.

A meeting was held to take preliminary steps toward building a meeting house in March of 1876. It was decided to ask for donations for the purpose of building a church--money,labor,grain,or any usable material. All people in the community were to be contacted for pledges during a seven day drive. $1,277.50 was pledged. Meetings were held to discuss building plans. A.B.Whiting was authorized to go to Topeka and other places to examine church buildings with reference to the wants and means of the people of the community. Local people favored a stone building. Charles A.Whiting died on January 16,1872,leaving his property including a 40 acre farm (where Willard Babb lives) to the church. The church had deeds to several lots and it was voted to build a house of worship. The church trustees were authorized to contract for quarrying rock for the building. A.C.Baker and J.W.C.Pierce were engaged to prepare the plans. A.B.Whiting was authorized to obtain a $500 loan,through a mortgage on the church farm,for a term of five years or less,with interest not to exceed 12%. Bids were asked through advertisements in the Junction City Tribune and the Manhattan Nationalist ,withAugust 11,1876 as the day of decision. It was decided to postpone action until the following year as sufficient funds were not available for the type of building desired

The question of building a church was reconsidered in January of 1877. A.B.Whiting proposed a good substantial frame building 28 by 40 feet with a rear addition 14 by 20 feet,and to finish same in good shape, ready for the pews,for $1,200--he to bear all other expense. He also proposed to build a corner tower for an ante-room and a bell tower to the church,10 by 10 feet at the base,at his own expense and in his own way,as a memorial to his little daughter Annie who died of burns in August of 1876. It was decided to circulate a new subscription list for the building to replace the one of the previous year. The farm was mortgaged to A.B. Whiting for $400.

Construction started, The frame was of native oak sawed locally. Local residents furnished most of the labor. The pew ends and back rolls of black walnut were ordered from Chicago. The seats were of oiled pine and were built locally. The pulpit,a section of an octagon, was built by Mr.Graves of Junction City of locally sawed curled walnut. A.B.Walters,who learned the painting trade in his native Switzerland,did the outside painting and the inside finishing as his contribution to the project. While doing this work,he and Rosa Rush were married,August21,1877 by Rev.Edward Skinner,local pastor. The building and furnishings which included pews,organ, pulpit,etc.,cost approximately $2,500. Arthur Stewart of Topeka,but formerly of Milford,sent a $50 cash contribution,a chandelier,and a pair of pulpit lamps.

In August plans were made for the dedication to be held November 15. Invitations were extended to churches at Bala,Wakefield,Junction City,Manhattan,Waubansee, and Topeka. Much remained to be done:setting up the seats;installing stoves for heating;providing fuel.

Dedication Day was a beautiful day. Members of the Madura Church,led by their pastor William S.Crouch, showed their fellowship by coming in large numbers to rejoice with their friends. Prof.Slie of Topeka played the organ. Members of the church choir were Charles Streeter and his sister Abbie,Miss Gifford,Mrs.Henry Whiting,Louis Humphrey,and Myron Humphrey. The sermon was delivered by Rev.Peter McVicar of Washburn College, and the dedicatory prayer was given by Rev.E.P.Ingersoll of Clay County. A basket dinner was served at noon,after which the congregation again assembled for the ordaining of the Rev.Edward Skinner. Introductory services were led by Rev.Crouch;the sermon by Rev.R.D.Parker of Manhattan;ordaining prayer Rev.Jacobus of Junction City; right hand of fellowship by Rev.McVicar of Topeka; charge of the candidate Rev.Ingersoll of Clay County; and suggestions to the people by Rev.Storrs,agent for the Home Missionary Society.

"The house is a beauty--set just upon the top of the hill,and,with its commanding tower,may guide many a wanderer in more senses than one."

Proceeds from the sale of posts and wire from the church farm helped with the indebtedness on the seats. Money from the crops was used for tax,interest,and principal. It was voted to share Rev.Skinner with Junction City,beginning in February,alternating services,each on a half time basis. Rev.Skinner tendered his resignation in December of 1879. Rev.M.S.Riddle served as pastor from 1880 to February,1883,when he resigned to become co-partner in the "Riddle-Humphrey Marketing and Drug Store" which opened at Milford in 1882.

In June of 1880,deeds were exchanged mutually,by which Mrs.Jaquith assumed ownership of the church farm with its mortgage. She gave to the church the title to her house and four lots,free of incumbrance. Since that time,it has been known as the Congregational parsonage.

A.B.Whiting opened a grocery and dry goods store near the site of Clifford Shandy's garage. He also had a boarding and rooming house near-by. John Fawley took over the operation of the Whiting store in 1879. Two years later,he and his son Abe opened a larger store at the present site with an $8,000 stock of goods,including groceries,dry goods,hardware,home remedies, machinery,etc. W.H.Kennett opened a lumberyard in 1885. During the past seventy-five years,there have been many store owners and operators. Before the common use of the automobile,they did a thriving business from a large trade area. Abe Fawley often recalled the fact that they sold more International twine than any other dealer in Kansas,in a one year period.

A number of small businesses did not stand the test of time. Jim Bates with the help of John Mellinger,Sr., operated a sorghum mill. Dr.Bard had a cigar factory. John Shaeffer made cigars from home grown tobacco at his farm east of town. There was a cement plant at the rock cut southwest of town. Two other general stores served the community for many years--the J.C.Kennett store on the corner north of Fawley's,and the other on the corner east of Fawley's. Its origin is not definite,but many believe it was built by Bartell's and that J.L.Williamson operated it for some years. This building was headquarters for several doctors who also served as dentists. The post-office was located here most of the time that M.C.Linscott served as postmaster.

After the turn of the century,there were many store owners and operators,but none served the commun-



Milford Church 1877



Francis + Anna Bohm Rush
came in 1857



John Rush came to Ft. Riley in
Nov. 1854, at age of 17



Mr. + Mrs. C.L. Rush and Don
Rush farm in family name 106yrs.



Archie Stittsworth Home
First Maple Grove School held
in upstairs room



Brown's Log Cabin
on the Cott farm







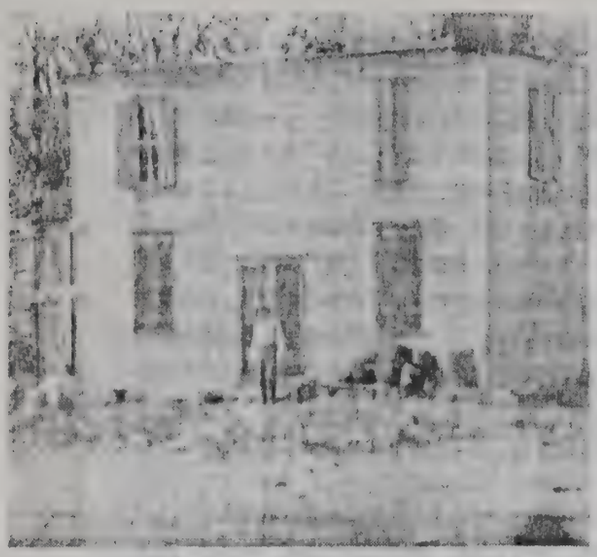
ity so long and so well as did the Fawley's and Jackie Kennett. With the coming of the automobile, the need for general stores lessened. Two or three grocery stores have been in existence most of the time. A partial list of owners or managers of grocery stores in addition to those already mentioned: J.L.Dollins, Ed Hill, John Luthi, Farmer's Union Co-op, George Stiers, Roy Buckley, Ernest Wills, Ben Roether, A.K.Postlewait, George Adams, Byron Badger, G.K.Morris. Ada Mellinger, C.C.Seley, and Louis Larson are present day grocery store owners. Larson has a butchering and locker service along with his grocery business. The plant was installed and operated for some years by Clyde Cleveland, following World War II.

Meat has been the basis of various business undertakings. Dr.Bard was the first to have such a plant at Milford but it did not survive the test of time. He built the large two story stone house near the Shandy bulk station for a hospital in connection with his medical practice. This, too, did not last as a business. His first three patients died, the business did not pay, and the idea was abandoned.

In the nineties, a slaughter-house with a curing room was built on the right fork of the Y road north of town. William Badger was in charge of slaughtering and skinning (owner in doubt). Meat was shipped to Boston and New York. The plant operated for about a year, but the business did not operate at a profit so the idea was abandoned. Older residents speak of slaughter-house hill road. C.J.Chambers bought the building and moved it to his property in Milford for use as a shop in connection with his well-drilling business. It is interesting to note that this same building was again moved. This time it was moved to the farm of the Chambers Farm Company, less than a mile from its original location. Malcolm Barry owned and operated a meat curing room in the basement of the Steppe house.

Owners or operators of the lumber yard in addition to W.H.Kennett have included W.E.Voiles, Heaton Tracy, George Hammond, E.M.Wilkins, the present owner Joe Rudolph, and possibly others. Cass Cookson, John Mellinger, and Charles Mellinger maintained a livery stable before the time of the automobile. John Mellinger hauled passengers to and from the depot in his "hack". Most of the goods purchased for the stores were sold to them by traveling salesmen, who came by train and remained over night at the town hotel.

Among the early barbers were: Stackhouse who had a shop in the house east of the church; John Harbes in the Crumrine home; Bob Martin; Charles Say; William Badger; Jack Vogelgesang.



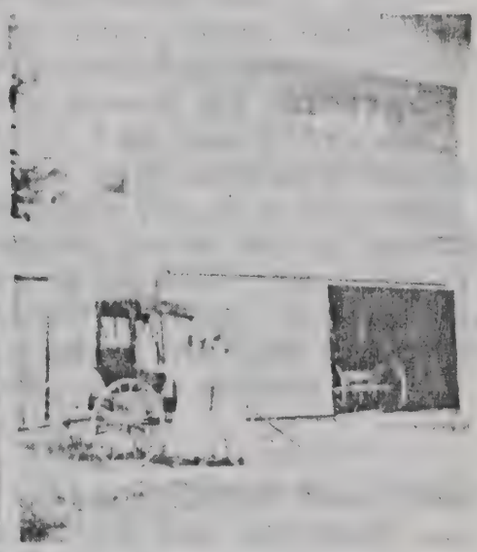
Kennett Store
Razed after World War I



One of Early Stores
Razed after World War I



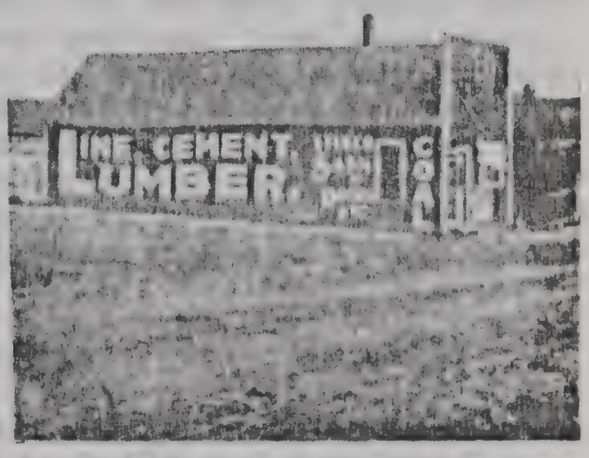
Milford - 1909 - Taken from
northwest of Roether's house



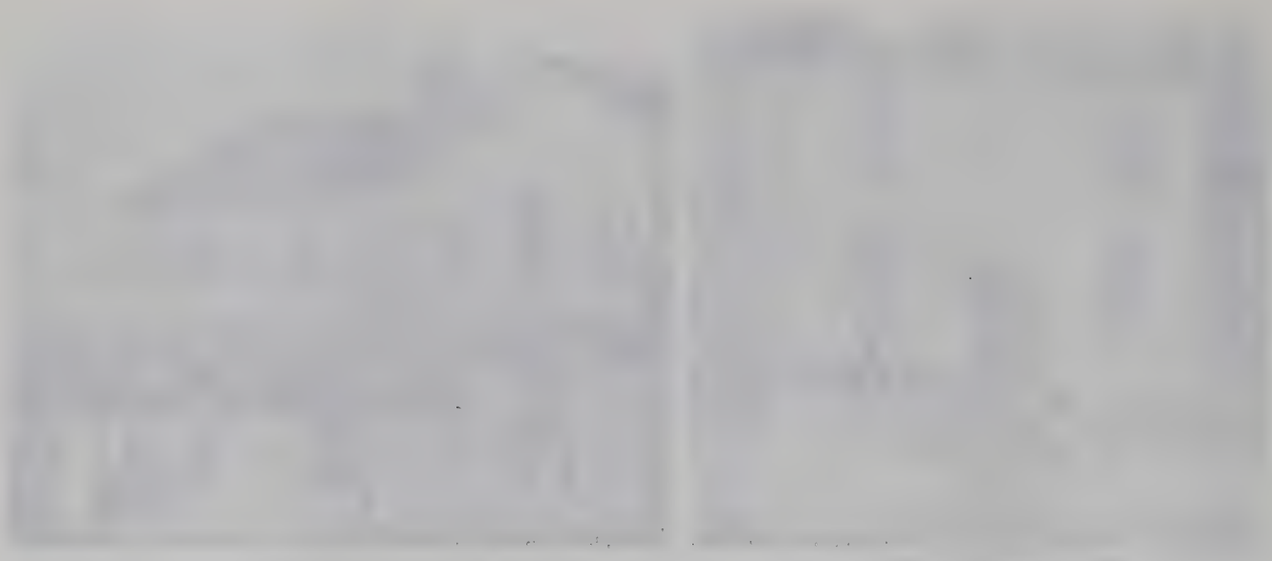
Before automobiles came
into use

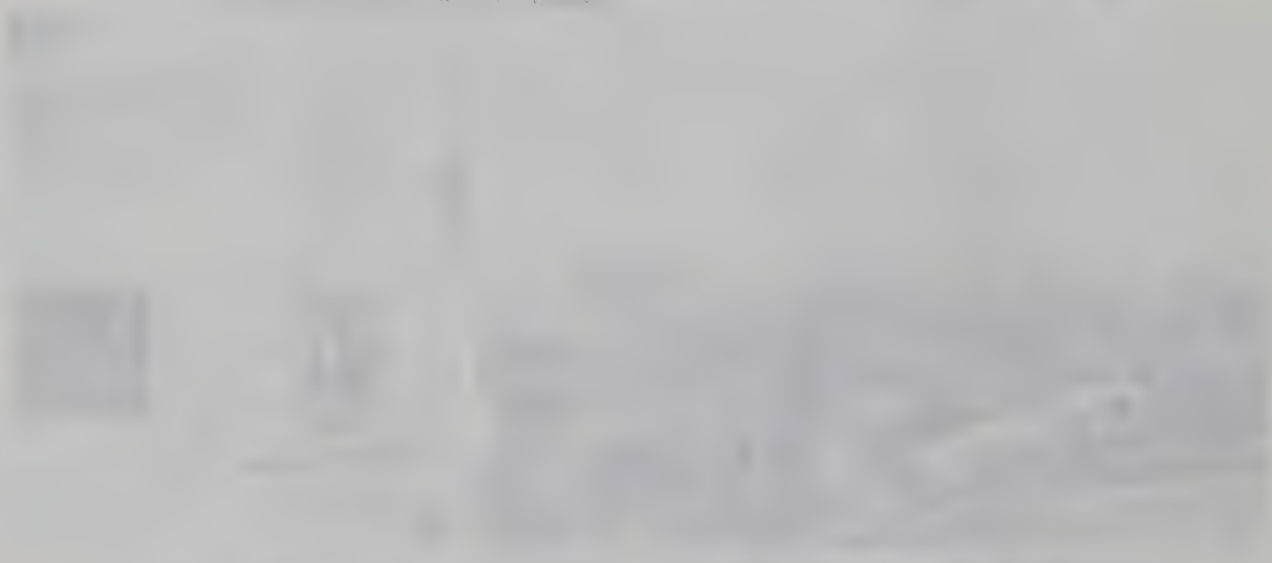


"The Dutch Store" - 1907
to Early 20's.



Lumber yard
First one - 1885 by W.H. Kennett







Early doctors found it necessary to have a sideline for income. Some practiced here over a long period of time. Dr. Whiting was perhaps the first doctor to practice at Milford. He lived in the C.C.Seley house. Dr.Vanwall was an early doctor in this community. Dr. Bard served the people for many years. Dr.Molesworth left the Milford area in 1899 to seek a larger practice. Those who served the community after the turn of the century included W.S.Yates,Frank McCord,John R. Brinkley,and T.L.Jones. Doctors associated with the local hospital have had a limited practice: Dr.Owensby, Dr.Purviance,Dr.C.H.Dragoo,and Dr.A.J.Wise.

The Bacheller post-office was established in 1861 in the Abraham Barry cabin,with Barry as post-master. Prior to this time,the nearest post-office was at Fort Riley. Getting the mail to and from there was a great problem. John Rush carried mail on foot,twice each week,from Fort Riley to Bacheller,dropping off the Vinton mail at the Huston home. Barry moved to Junction City in 1863 where he had an active law practice. He opened a hotel in 1865. Some of the post-masters during the past century have been B.E.Fullington,A.B.Whiting, Mrs.Jaquith,John Fawley,M.C.Linscott,Josie Welsh Martin, G.K.Morris,Grace Wilson,and Harry Brighton. The post-office has been in various locations through the years. Early patrons enjoyed the "gossip sessions" at the post-office in early day grocery stores. They shared the news of the outside world with all.

The Fort Riley-Fort Kearney trail crossed the river near the town site and was an asset to the growing community. The Union Pacific Railroad branch line began operation as far as Clay Center in 1873. Dr.Bard and George W.Miller cut and hauled railroad ties from the Timber Creek area for laying the track. Samuel Cutter and Levi Warnock were employed by the railroad company to furnish buffalo meat for the men. People wanted a bridge to replace ferry service. Some conceived the idea of building a town near the railroad. On December 28,1882,"New Milford" was incorporated. Petitioners included W.H.Kennett,John Denver,Clarissa Denver,and Louisa C.Fullington,with J.C.Kennett as notary public. The Acme post-office,Acme mill,and a store were opened,but the town did not grow and it was soon abandoned.

Schools

With statehood,Kansas became politically stable. Taxes were levied and used to build and construct schools. A legislative enactment of 1855 provided for school districts to be formed by petition. The first school at Milford was organized under this law in 1859.

School was held in a log building near the Whiting boarding and rooming house with A.B.Whiting as teacher. The Alida school had its beginning in 1863 in the John M.Curtis home on Curtis Creek with Miss Mary Graham as teacher. Teachers were paid by patrons of the schools on a voluntary basis.

In 1865 Kansas law was enacted which provided for organization into districts and for tax levies for the support of schools. At that time the Milford school was officially organized and two lots were acquired from Moses Younkin for a permanent tax-supported school. The first tax levy for school purposes was made in 1865: ½ of 1% for teacher's wages and 3/8 of 1% for incidental expenses. The stone above the window of the school carries the date of "1868". Mrs.John K.Wright was one of the early teachers. She made her home with the Keller's on the George Miller farm east of town and spent weekends with her sister and family (Lockstones) where Frank Miller resides.

The Maple Grove school was organized in 1868. The first classes were held in the upstairs room of the log house on the Mayme Stittsworth farm. The Acme school was organized in 1877 and was named for the Acme postoffice which was located near the railroad,southwest of the present depot. The first school east of Milford was held at the John Shaeffer farm by mutual agreement of the families in the neighborhood. In 1880 the High Point school was organized and a stone building was erected.

Two schools were in operation in the south part of Milford Township. Those east of the Milford road attended the Dixon school which was one mile east of the John Schad home. Some pupils of the Dixon school were:Frank, James Frederick,Sadie,Will,and Jimmy Dixon; Arthur and Ed Miller; Harry Schoepf; Carrie,George,and Ralph Walters; Alvy Ferguson; Wesley Dueker. Those west of the Milford road attended a school south of Rush Creek,about 400 yards west of the road past the Fasse-Adams farm. Some pupils of this school were: Rudolph Neuber, Ross Nixon,Albert and Mary Moritz,Alice Oswald, and Ollie Heath's wife (H er name was Bunch).In 1889,A.B. Walters moved this school in two sections to a new location ¼ mile north of the present Pleasant View school. H e used his 8 horse power Huber threshing engine.At this time,the Pleasant View school was formed of the two districts. The Dixon schoolhouse was moved to the Rush farm for use as a farm building. Twenty years later the present building was erected.John Dixon was the first teacher of the Pleasant View school;Richard Rohrer the second.

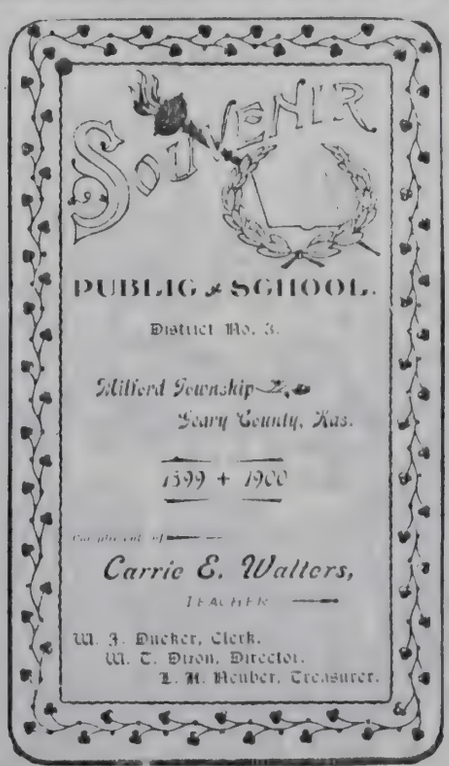
In the school reorganization of 1946,Maple Grove,

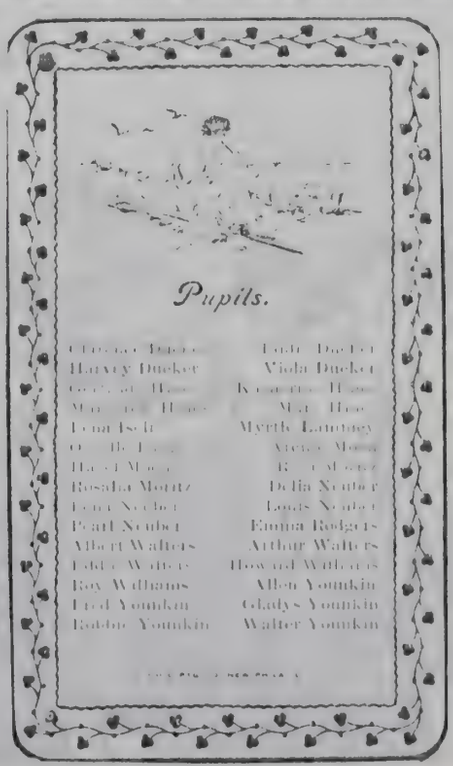
Acme, and High Point were united with the Milford District for the advantages offered in a larger school. H.C.Marts was a member of the three member county reorganization board. It is interesting to note the minimum school terms: 3 months in 1876; 4 months in 1881; 7 months in 1911; and 8 months in 1923. In 1883 the average monthly salary of teachers in Davis County was: $34.25 for men; $29.32 for women.

2033292

Pleasant View School 1899-1900











Pleasant View School 1909-1910



Front row: Annie Hunt, Sarah Wells, Mae Neuber, Bertha Ehm, Grace Walters, Louise Wells, Arno Heintz, Earl Younkin, John Ehm, Gaylord Wilburn
Back row: Ulrika Heintz, Alice Walters, Ethel Heintz, Ethel Kurtze, Inez Hunt, Agnes Hunt, Agnes Oliver (teacher), Paul Ehm, August Neuber, Jennings Walters, Willie Wilburn

Pleasant View School 1932







Front row: Arthur Neuber,Raymond Moritz,Robert Kurtze, Floyd Haslett,Betty Kurtze,Kurtze (behind Betty),Norma Jean Younkin,Ralph Bitterlin,Mary Kurtze,Bill Kurtze, Warren Moritz,Helen Steinford. Second row: Helen Kurtze,Dorothy Neuber,Vivian Haslett,Ruby Moyer,Mabel Moyer,Pearl Moritz,Wallace Kurtze,Katherine Bitterlin, Frances Gish,Dwight Waters (teacher). Third row: Clarence Harloff,Tom Moyer,Lucille Neuber,Ted Moyer,Glen Haslett. Back row: Wilma Kurtze,Lillian Thomi,John Schad,Rose Moritz.

Pleasant View School 1937-1938



Front row: Rosanne Walters,Bill Haslett,Mildred Whitley,Barbara H addock,Evelyn Haslett,H erbert Haddock, Loretta Cowen,Irene Swart,Gilbert Krause,Donald Cowen, Betty Krause. Second row: Phil Walters,Herman Cott, Dolly Britt,Esther Zimmerman,Robert Britt,Bill Whitley, Jimmy Younkin,Ralph Bitterlin,Lewis Horner,Virgil Cowen, Hazel Hockensmith (teacher). Back row: Norma Jean Younkin,Floyd Haslett,Arthur Neuber,William Haddock,Elsie Haddock



Tacky Day at Pleasant View 1948



Front row: Darlene Walters, Mary Lou Schad, Jeanette Cott, Linda Turnbull, Edith Turnbull, Norma Brenneman, David Younkin
Back row: Jimmy Wofford, Joe Schad, Jim Ferguson, Robert Brenneman, Jerry Schad, Warren Wofford, Willard Turnbull

High Point School 1907-1908





Front row: Ed Bentz,Ernest Heer,Fred Wakefield,Lillie Heer,Martha Heer,Howard Wilson,Lester Brimer,Cecil Bentz,Alveta Irion. Back row: Bill Wakefield,Clyde Beard,Clara Shuel,Leora Beard,Sinda Sanders (teacher), Flossie Young,Mabel Bentz,Dona Bentz,Sarah Shuel.

H igh Point School Dec. 1930



Front row: Stella Shandy,Howard Miller,Margaret Jones, Ethel Jones,Mary Bentz,Lois Parrack. Back row: Francis Johnston,Anita Parrack,Ivan Jacobson,Laura Marcy (teacher),Robert Bentz,Dale Miller,Willard Matthews.

High Point School 1932

(picture on next page)

Front row: Amy Jones,Stella Shandy,Mary Bentz,Lois Parrack,Maxine Otto,Darlene Bentz. Second row: Margaret Jones,Howard Miller,Willard Matthews,Ethel Jones,Anita Parrack,Eunice Budden (teacher). Back row: Dale Miller,Francis Johnston,Robert Bentz,Iola Jacobson.

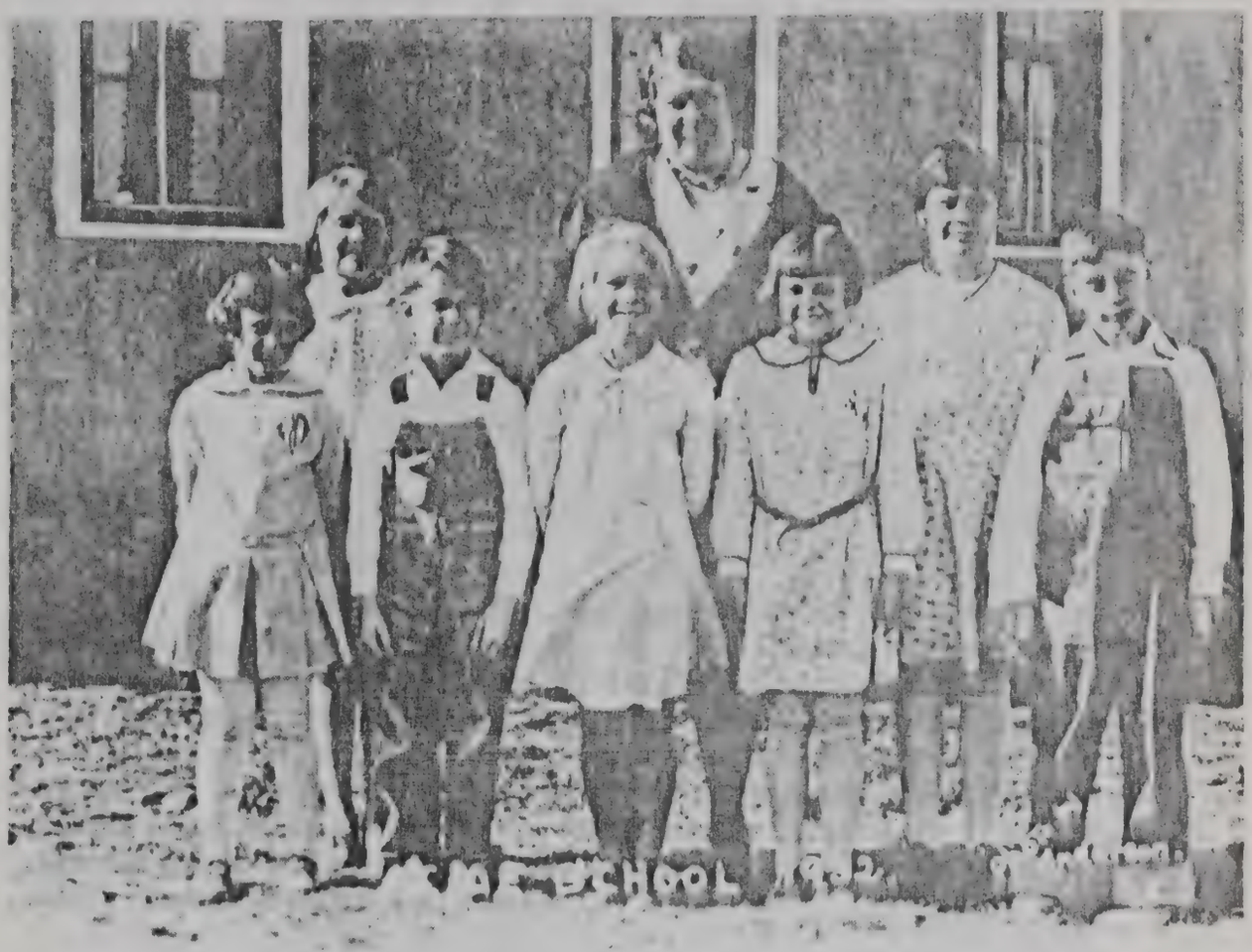








Front row: Bob Stittsworth,Bill Stittsworth,Frank Miller,Loren Hicks, Second row: Albert Hicks,Kid Campbell, John Schad,Frank Hicks,Margaret H arris (teacher). Back row: Arfie Condray,Ernest Miller,Larry Roth,Eva Condray,Rose Hicks.



Front row: Joan McDowell,Dallas Luttman,Delores Koepsel,Wilma Jean McDowell,Herman Schweitzer. Back row: Maxine Denver,Ethel Ramsour (teacher),Rosalie McDowell.



First permanent school at Milford,erected in 1868





Primary room-probably 1904 or 1905:Mabel Webber,teacher Front row,Verda Mellinger,Claude Wilson,Goldie Smith, A.J.Dalquest,Grace Mellinger,Bernice Chambers;Second row; Frank Waters,Bryan Chambers,McKinley Hammond,Webber,La-Vern Stittsworth,Fred Jones,Bernice Bates;Third row:Art Luthi,Ray Chambers,Ethel Mellinger,Eunice Mellinger,Bert Worth,Faye Waters,John Mellinger;Back row:Charley Grover, Mary Luthi,Ewart Dollins.

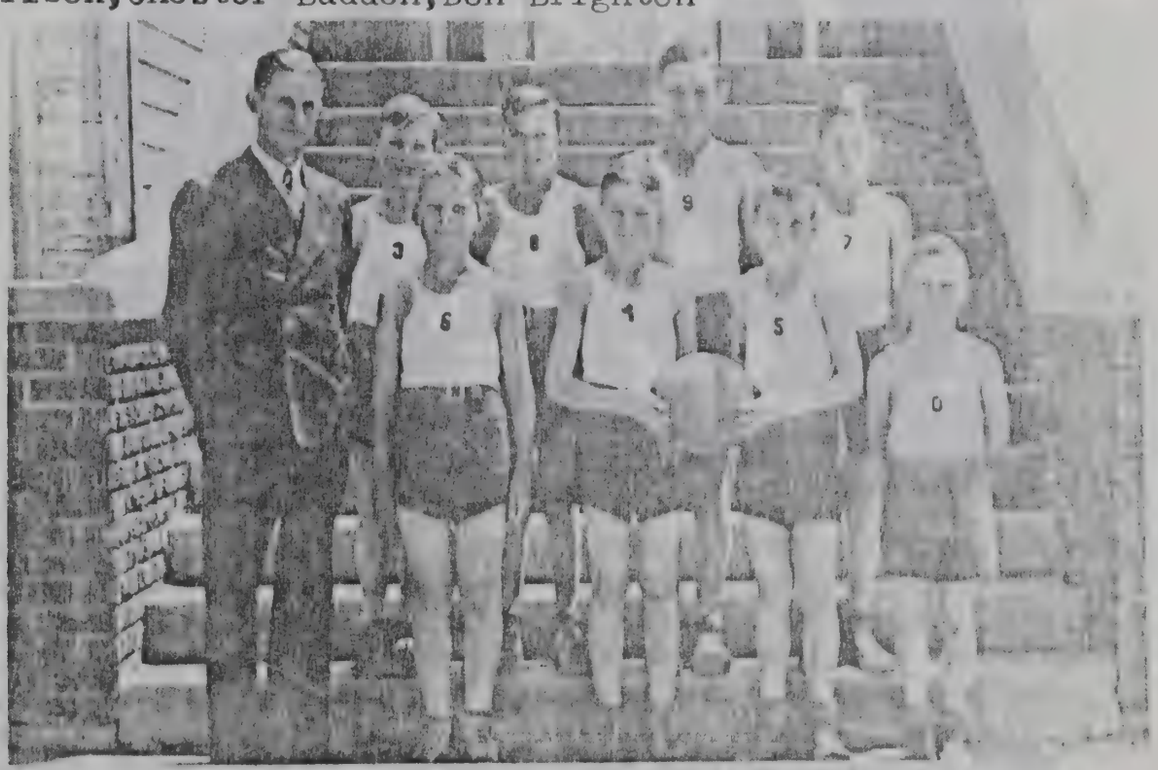




Upper Grade room,Celia Davin,teacher,1906 or 1907 Front:Dallas Linscott,Fred Marcy,Mary Luthi,Beryl Hull, Hazel Martin,Gertrude Wilson,Billy Grammer,Ewart Dollins. Middle row:Cecil Richardson,Linnie Martin,Edith Chambers,Goldie Chambers,Celia Davin,Emma Luthi,Emma Stittsworth,Ada Mellinger,Mary Hines. Back row:Jessie Waller,Kate Mellinger,Georgia Mellinger,Bessie Chambers, Blanche Seley,Kathryn Martin,Verge Bates,Oma Mellinger, Lelia Walker



L.R.Brown,Mason Parker,Robert Owensby,Dean Snell,George Wilson,Chester Budden,Don Brighton



Karl Edwards,Darrell Bentz,Richard Shilts,Shirley Kidd, Kenneth Shandy. Back row,Howard Kidd,Walter Wilson, Clinton Davies,Richard Johnston







Primary room:front,Frank Roether,(visitor),Frances McCord,Myrtle Canroberts,Cedric Seley,Ores Bates,Ben Hicks, Henry Brighton,Orville Snell;back row,Raymond Fasse,Earl Wilson,Grace Sanford,Esther Roether,Clarence Canroberts, Mildred Snell,Carrie Snell,Orville Christopher,Everett Brighton,Erma Strauss,Bertha Dumbauld,Flora Sheppard, (teacher).



Grammar room and H igh School:Front,Cedric Seley,Reuben Bentz,Chester Marcy,Raymond Bentz,Everett Brighton;Second,Claude Wilson,Lyndon Belin,Raymond Fasse,Willard Condray,Earl Wilson,Orville Christopher,Lyman Denver, Third,Dwight Waters,Nina Jaymes,Lizzie Wilson,Bertha Dumbauld,Laura Marcy,John Cleveland,Jackie Hughes; Fourth,Mabel Nixon,LaMona Miller,Eunice Sanders,Erma Strauss,Dorothy Bentz,Esther Condray,Grace Sanford. Teachers: Emma Miller Cook and Jessie Dobson





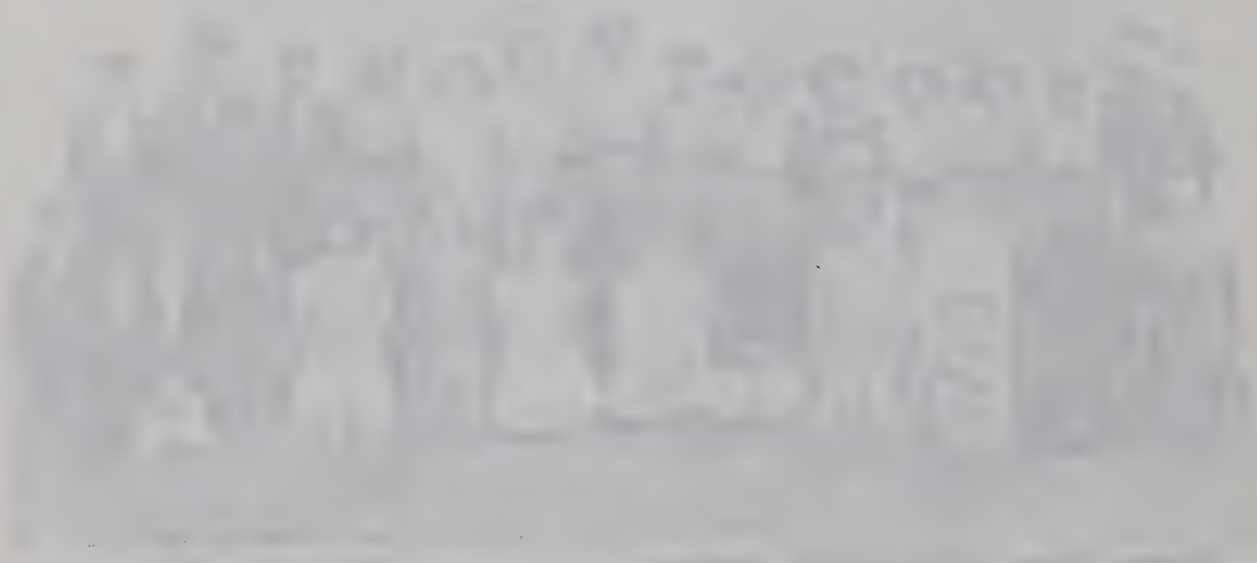


Milford Primary room 50 years ago,1910-1911:Kneeling, ,Ed Miller,Tom Roether, Clifford Kidd. Middle row,Virgil Seley,Walter Seley,Clifford Taylor, ,Lawrence Seley,Ed Wilson, Lizzie Wilson,Thelma McCord,Myrtle Seley,LaMona Miller, Jane Roether,Ruth Sanford,Lizzie Snell.Back row,Bess Hammond (teacher),Leo Kidd,Arthur Wilson,Clarence Richardson,Fred Wilson,Asa Adams,Inez Parker,Millie Seley, Alice Snell,Margaret Roether,May Kidd,Jennie Fasse,Fay Kidd,Frank Luthi.



Upper Room 1909-1910: Front, Flossie Seley, ,Lola Stittsworth,Mabel Young, Ruth Walters,Verda Mellinger,Bernice Chambers, ; Middle,Bryan Chambers,John Mellinger,Clarence Richardson,George Seley,Reuben Miller,Lee Wilson,Claude





Wilson,Clifford Taylor,Wert Wilson, Fred Jones; Back,Ira Chapman (teacher),Jessie Waller, Mildred Canroberts,Hazel Martin,Eunice Mellinger,Ethel Mellinger,Emma Luthi,Mary Luthi,Minnie Miller,Gertie Wilson,Ray Chambers,Ernest Wilson,Bert Worth



Entire Grade School,1951:Front row,Tommy McVaugh,John Badger,Bob Lawson,Art Lawson,Larry Bigham,Bob Oldnettle,Billy Berry,Jimmy Davies,Bobby Davies, Second row,Lois Crider,Donna Crider,Betty Helget,Nancy Denver,Phyllis Anderson,Sharon Nelson,Karen Nelson,Marilyn Winteroth,Kay Bigham,Sharon Ruth Martin,Karen Simonson,Sharon Green,Beth Denver,Carolyn Morfitt;Third row,Wesley Simonson,Marilyn Martin,Wayne Babb,Richard Belin,Beverly Moritz,Billy Noble,Dorothy Morfitt,Verna Belin,Janet Brighton,Bonnie Jo Rudolph,Patty Carr,Denise Marcy,Sharon Marcy;Fourth row,Raymond Anderson(principal),Phyllis Waters,Jerry Mellinger,Bobby Smith, Jerry Carroll,Phyllis Oldnettle,Simonson,Karen Marts, Bonnie Koerner,William Johnston,Jay Christensen,Rita Helget,Arlan Shandy,Larry Shandy;Back row,Mary H ealy (teacher),Gary Shandy,Dean Anderson,Buford Miller,Jim Head,Charley Luthi,Ronald Shandy,Dorothy Jane Arkell (teacher),Carol Mellinger,Betty Bruce,Beverly Puck, Arlene Berry,Janice Brighton,Joan Shandy





Front,Gary Shandy,Jim H ead,Charley Luthi,Ronald Shandy, Larry Jones,Buford Miller,Jay Christensen,Edward Sherraden; Back row,Bernard Bruce,Billy Noble,Stanley Shivers,Bobby B,Arthur C,Jerry Lee Carroll,Jerry Mellinger



1951:Back row,Mrs.Sherraden,Robert S,Billy Noble,Karen Marts,Bonnie Koerner,Jerry Lee Carroll,Bernard Bruce, Roy L; Middle row,Sharon Marcy,Bonnie Rudolph,Kay Bigham,Rita Helget,Beverly Moritz,Phyllis Waters,Verna Belin,Marilyn Martin,Beverly N; Front row,Eugene M,Arthur Lawson,Richard Belin,Jerry Mellinger,Gail Shivers,Wayne Babb,Harold M,Arlan Shandy





Milford Rural High School was organized June 30, 1921 to meet the needs of boys and girls of high school age who would not have the opportunity to get a high school education. Members of the first board were L.B. Streeter,E.M.Wilkins,and John Miller. Emma Miller Cook taught the first classes at a salary of $1665.Classes for pupils of District No.2 had been held the year before.Early classes were held in the grade school building and in the Crumrine residence. The high school building was erected in 1925. It proved inadequate to meet the athletic needs of the community. Patrons voted a $60,000 bond issue in 1953 for a suitable gymnasium.



The first class to graduate from M.R.H.S.:Raymond Fasse, Lyndon Belin,Claude Wilson,Dorothy Bentz (Schweitzer), LaMona Miller (Rucker)--Class of 1924

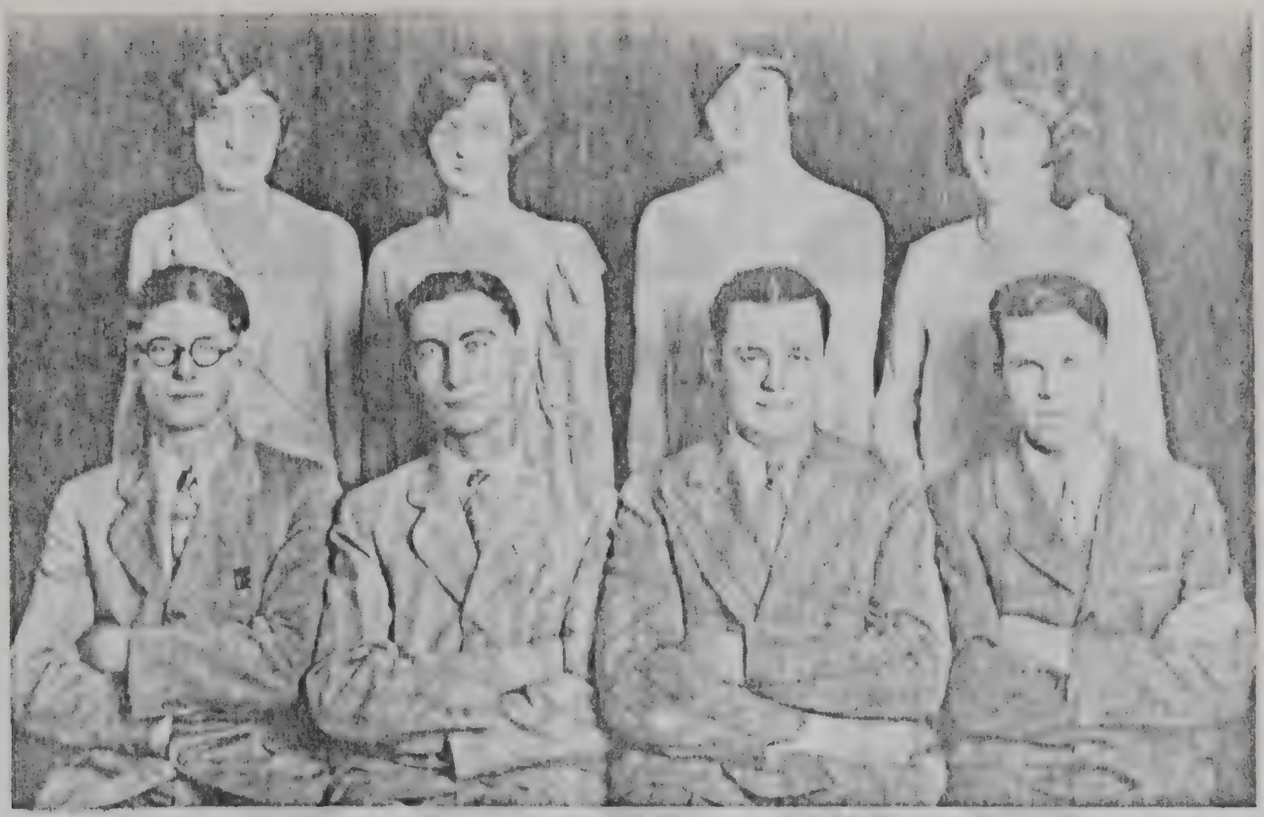
There were no graduates in 1925.

Members of the class of 1926:Laura Marcy,Earl Wilson, Erma Strauss,Cedric Seley,Dwight Waters,Chester Marcy, Grace Sanford,Everett Brighton.





Members of the Class of 1927: Seated, Willard Condray, Edith Streeter, Esther Condray; Standing, John Cleveland, Josephine Adams, Edith Miller.
The girls made their graduation dresses.



Members of the class of 1928:Abner Bentz,Elmer Schweitzer,Hugh Adams,Lyman Denver,Mildred Mellinger,Pearl Fasse,Mary Martin,Verna Miller.



Class of 1930--Seated:Kenneth Steinford,Doris Streeter, Isabel Postelwaite,Ruby McRae,Lyman Seley; Second row: Ruth Cleveland,Gladys Mellinger,Clifford Cleveland, Thelma Woodbury; Back row:Estral Badger,Loyal Belin, Carrie Whitmore,Richard Miller,Walter Wilkins









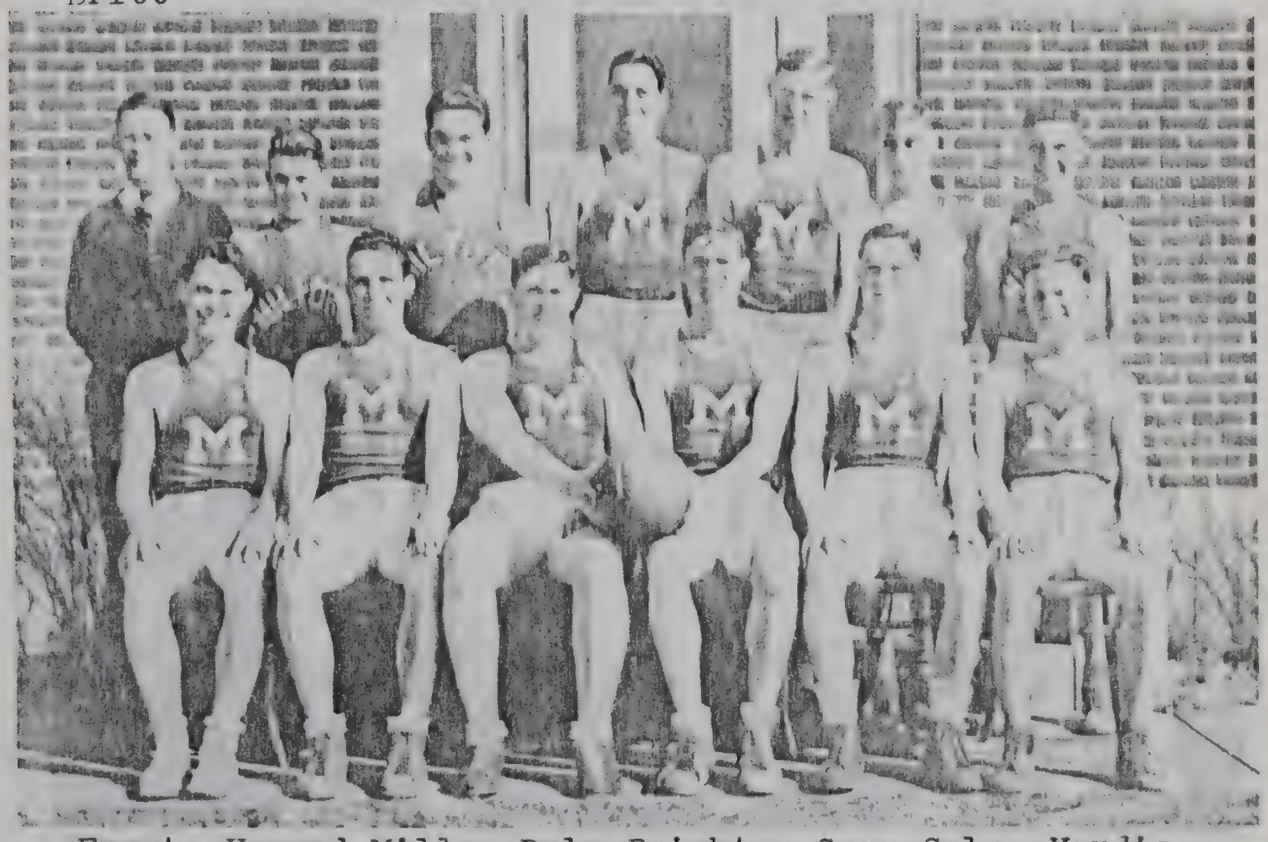
Seated: Donald Brighton, Dean Snell, Glen Haslett, Dale Miller, Dean Martin; Standing, Clyde Cleveland, Harold Insley, O.R. Cragun (principal), Bill Stittsworth, George Wilson.







Seated: Wayne Lawson,Bill Stittsworth,Glen Haslett, George Wilson,Gerald Denver; Standing:Don Brighton, Robert Bentz,Leonard Pike (coach),Dean Snell,Robert Britt



Front: Howard Miller,Dale Brighton,Gene Seley,Verdis Brighton,Robert Irion,Edward Cleveland; Standing,Glen Akin (coach),Ben Hillyard,Hubert Marts,Gaylord Grover, Willard Matthews,Herman Schweitzer,Bruce Stittsworth







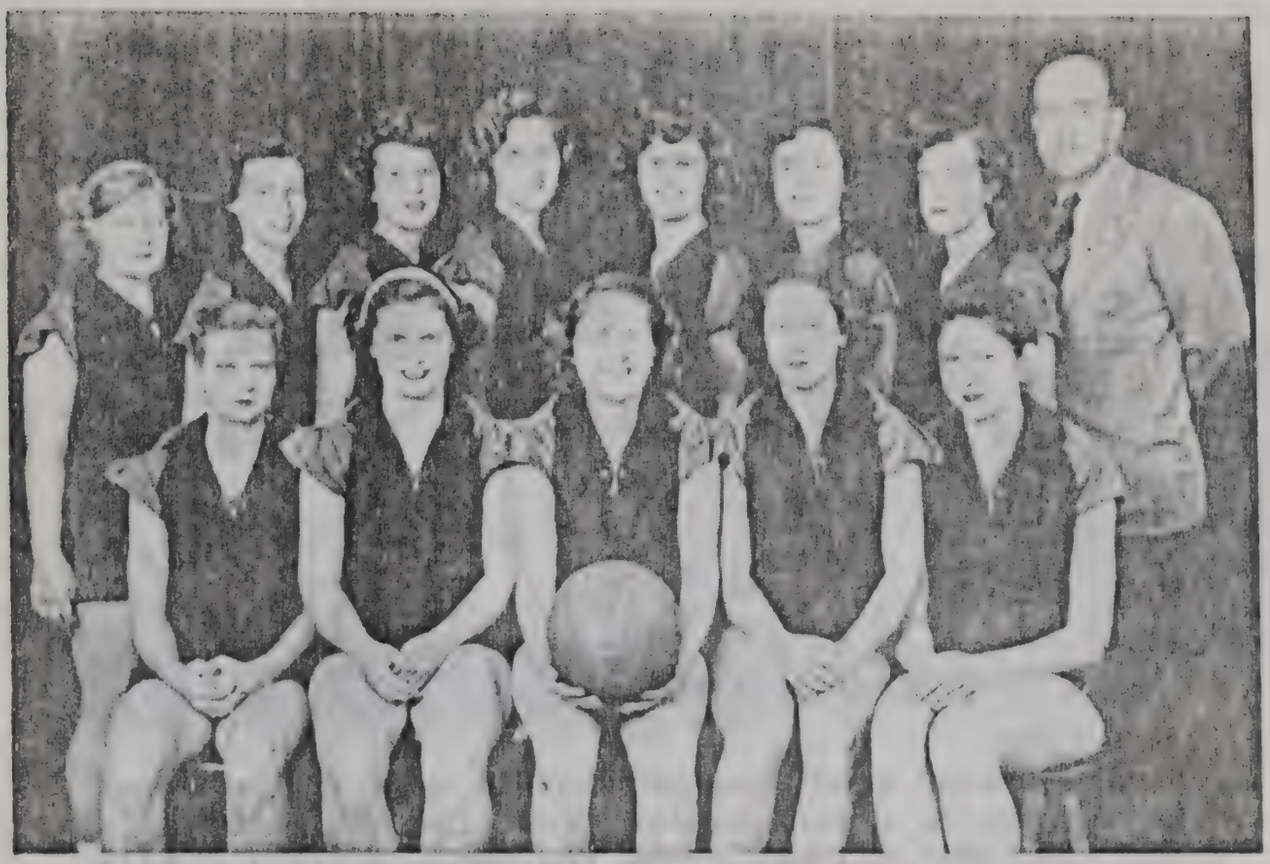
Front row: Alvin Berggren, Sam Miller, Richard Meyers, William Nowman, Dale Johnston; Standing, Carl Smith (coach), David Marts, Dan Edward Roether, Jim Kidd, Chas. Kidd, Edward Wilson



Front: H arold Spear (coach), Roy Head, John Luthi, Leon Kidd, Ron Head, Merle Jones, Eugene Nelson; Back row: Gene Christensen, Bill Bruce, Clifford Moenning, Bob Puck, Jim Puck, Raymond Shivers, William Davies







1946-1947--Seated: Imogene H ead, Thelma Marcy, Rosanne Walters, Mary Ann Miller, Dorothy Jane Arkell; Standing, Bonita Ziegenhirt, Connie Lou Schweitzer, Dorothy Don Bentz, Joan Budden, Joan Schweitzer, Sharon Meyers, Helen Wilson, Carl Smith (coach)

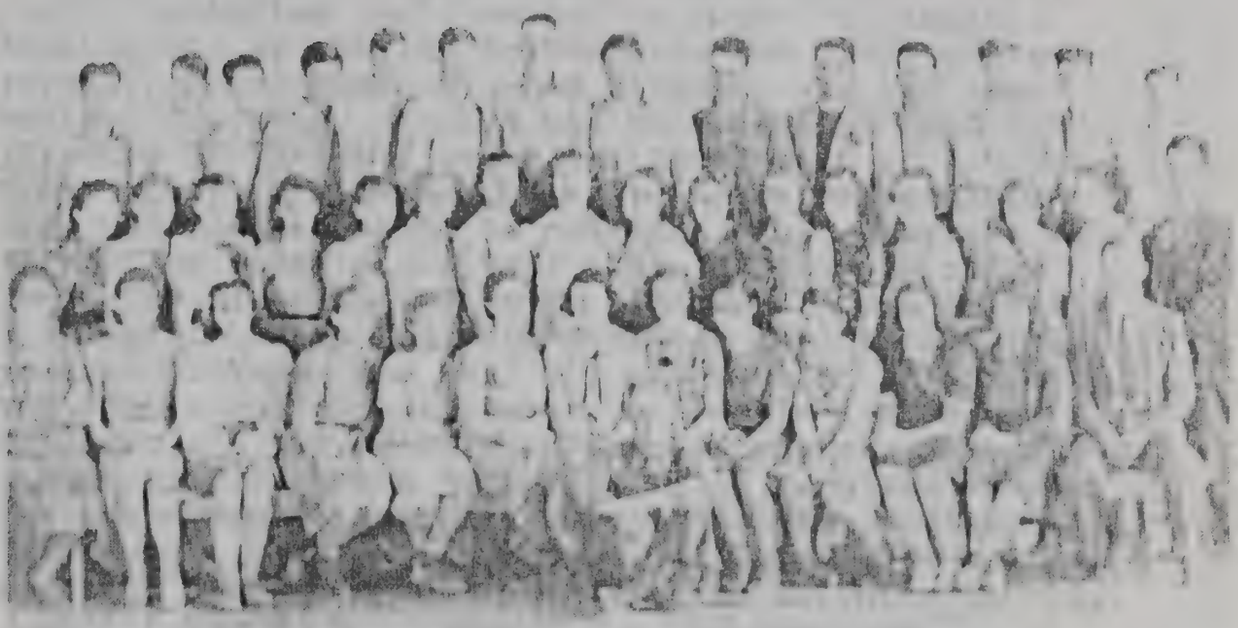


Seated: Velma Stevens, Roberta Mellinger, H arold Spear (coach), Helen Kidd, Elsie Stevens; Standing, Pat Head, Ruth Roether, Therisha Brighton, Charlotte Bentz





Milford Rural High School
1939-1940



Front row:Lillian Addie (teacher),Lois Gwin (teacher), Wilma Jean McDowell,Ruby Grover,Maxine Wilson,Ernestine Wilson,Phyllis Jones,Amy Jones,Juanita Kidd,Jean Rose, Joan McDowell,Dolly Britt,Glen Akin (coach);Second row: Vivian Steinbruck,Laura Heintz,Margaret Jones,Mary Bentz, Betty Wilson,Betty Lee Stark,Lois Parrack,Katherine Fredericks,Mabel Davies,Dorothy Neuber,Rosalie Luthi,Stella Shandy,Myra Hamitt, ,Nadine Brighton,Norma Jean Younkin,J.G.Wilson (principal);Back row:Howard Miller, Ben Hillyard,Dallas Luttman,Bruce Stittsworth,Willard Matthews,Verdis Brighton,Gaylord Grover,Gene Seley,Ralph Hacker,Hubert Marts,Dale Brighton,Herman Schweitzer,Dale Lynch,Marvin Schweitzer.Romeo Cleveland,janitor,in front



1957 District Champions: ~~Larry Jones~~,Calvin Faulkner (coach),Jim Head,Gary Shandy,Billy Noble,~~Bob O'Brien~~
Jay Christensen
Joe Baker





Milford Has a Band

Music soothes men's souls. During pioneer days, people satisfied their needs for music by singing, dancing,and by playing instruments for their own enjoyment. Every community had citizens who had some musical training. Milford had an organized band for 52 years (1875-1927) under the leadership of A.B.Walters. Due to ill health,he asked to be relieved in 1925,but was persuaded to continue. That year the city of Milford voted a one-half mill tax levy to raise funds for new band uniforms. Citizens helped in various ways to raise money to purchase instruments for younger players. The last big undertaking of the band was a minstrel show,directed by druggist James A. Scheuren and A.B.Walters. Four performances were given: at the Milford Grade School,at Riley,Longford,and in the Opera House (Colonial Theater now)in Junction City. The money was used to purchase instruments to be used by young men and women interested in learning to play.

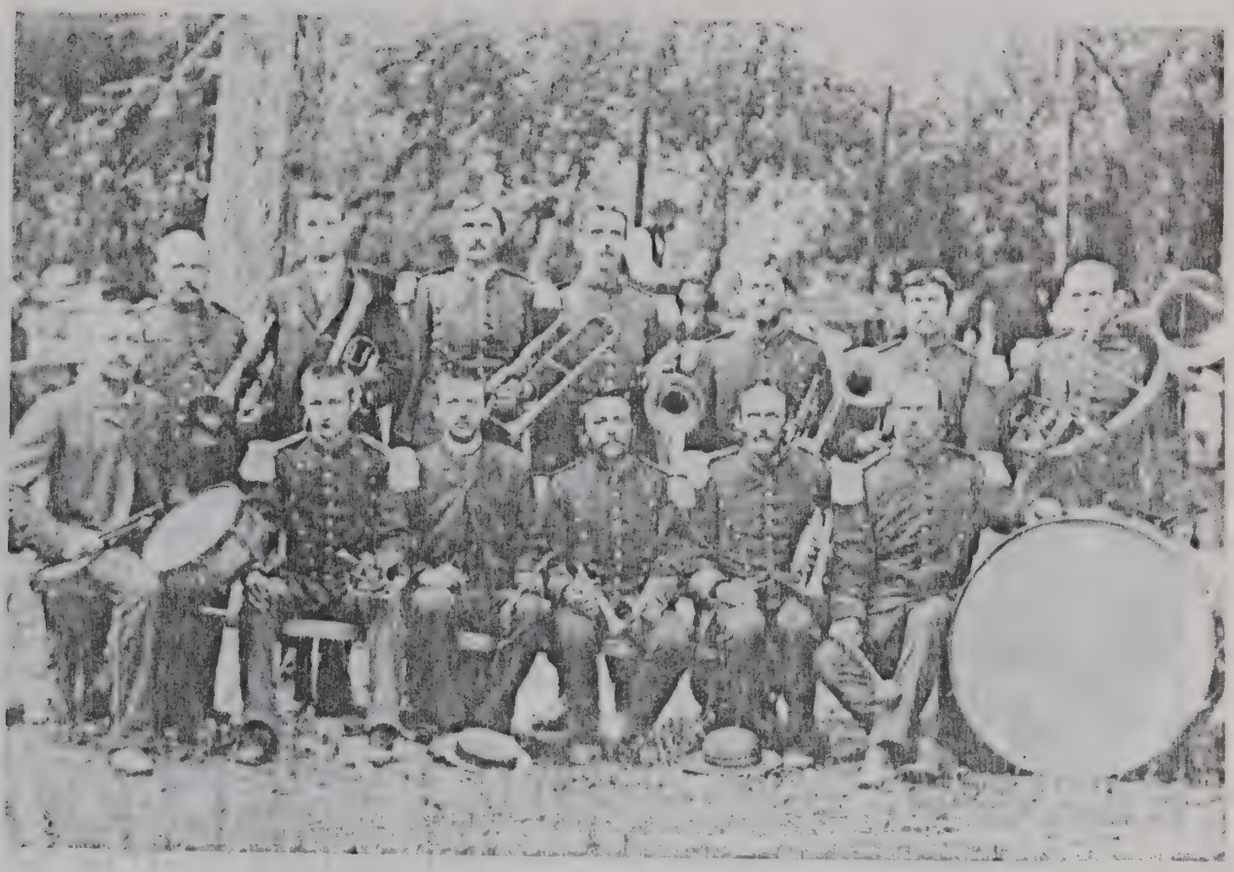
At the State Bandmen's Convention in the winter of 1926-27,A.B.Walters was presented a silver loving cup as the oldest playing musician attending the convention. H e was 75 years of age.

In addition to the Milford Band,he taught and directed bands at Magic,Riley,Keats,and Upland,for shorter periods of time, and played on occasions with the Junction City Municipal Band.

William Walters,a member of the Milford Band for many years,played cornet in an army band during his military service.

The earliest picture available was taken in the early 80's. Those in the front row:Luther Heath,Fred Whiting,George Bryant,A.B.Walters,M.J.Rush,and Henry Beard. Those in the back row: W.H.Kennett,Jud Grover, George Horner,Joe Grover,Al Carpenter,Fred Walters, and Ben Roether.

Fred Walters organized a small band at Magic in the late 80's. It was known as the "Magic Alliance Band". In 1892,A.B.Walters took over the leadership of the band and six years later the members joined the Milford group . Members pictured in the Magic Alliance Band are: seated, Fred Walters,Jim Simmons,and A.B. Walters; standing,Delbert Draper,Robbie Beard,Willie Beard,Bob Beard,Tom Parrack,and Austin Beard.



The Milford Band in the early 80's



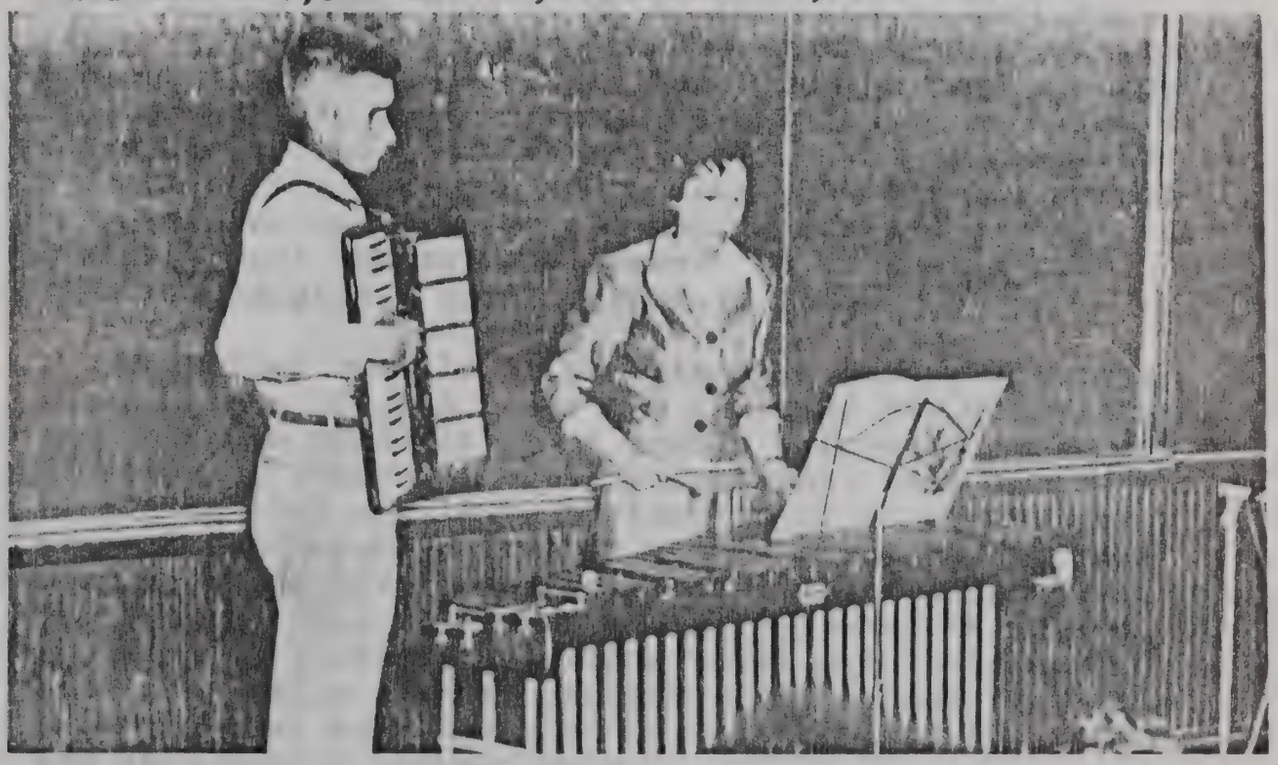
The Magic Alliance Band in the mid 90's







The Milford Band in 1906 or 1907:Front row,Wallace McDonald,Dick Irion,Billy Grammer,Billy Hauserman; Middle row,W.E.Voiles,Ben Roether,Ralph Walters,A.B. Walters (leader),George Walters,Arthur Walters,Walter Irion,Edward Walters; Back row,John Snyder,Earl Chambers,William Walters,Irving Grover,Frank Parker,Fred Walters Sr.,Joe Grover,C.J.Chambers,Fred Walters Jr.



Herman and Mary Ann Miller Cott at Acker School 1953



Still residing in Milford,only one block from the house in which he was born October 1,1888,is James W. "Jim" Waller. Mr.Waller has a record of almost 50 years in the postal service,most of the time at Milford,and although he may not have travelled far from home,his work has taken him the equivalent of at least 25 times around the world and in the process he has worn out a dozen cars and several horses.

He started as a substitute rural carrier at Milford September 1,1910. That was before cars were in common use in a day when surfaced roads were undreamed of.

Jim became a regular carrier on December 1,1913, and the route he received was a route no longer in existence. It was Route No.6 out of Junction City. It did not originate at the post-office. He lived at the Bob Burd farm southeast of Junction City and received the mail there for a route which wound around through the Davis and Clarks Creek area and up and down the hilly terrain of eastern Geary County. Sometimes the carrier from Junction City was late,and that meant the Route 6 carrier was late and if the roads were rutted or muddy, often he did not finish the route until after dark. The young carrier was not particularly happy.

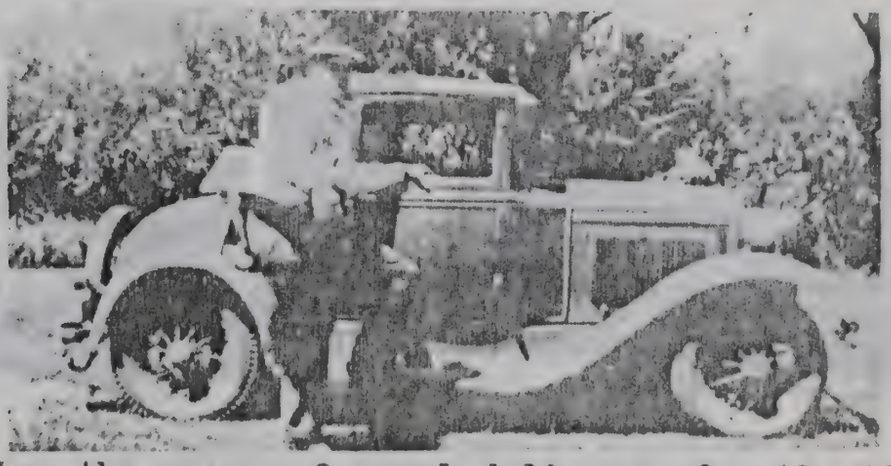
In those days Mike Miller,now a retired rural mail carrier out of the Junction City post-office,was the Milford rural carrier. Jim wanted to return to his home and friends in Milford and the swap was made. The route was a little more than 20 miles long and he kept two different outfits for carrying the mail. He had a team of ponies and when the roads were good,he used a buggy and the ponies. On other days he hitched a bay horse to a two-wheel cart to deliver the mail. When the weather and roads were too bad for the cart,he rode the horse, often taking down fences and making circles through fields,to get the mail delivered. He purchased his first automobile,a Model T Ford,in 1914.

Mr.Waller recalls an occasional runaway:-one came about when a dog ran under the cart and his horse took off down the road for about a mile before he could get it stopped. Other interesting incidents were during the floods of 1915 and 1935. During the flood of 1915,he crossed the Republican River with Madison Mowery in a boat so those living west of the river could receive their mail. This was repeated in 1935,when he walked 12 miles so these same patrons could get their mail. He also recalls that in earlier days he once froze his face and that many times he had to jump off the cart and trot behind to keep warm.

He retired November 1,1958. During this service,he

never had his record marred by an accident. He received three different safety driving awards for his services.





During the years of rural delivery of mail, Milford has had but four regular carriers: Ben Roether, Mike Miller, Jim Waller, and Gene Seley, the present carrier.

Dr. John R. Brinkley

An advertisement in the Kansas City Star in 1917, for a country doctor to locate at Milford, attracted the attention of John R. Brinkley who had recently been discharged from the army. Coming to Milford to investigate the possibilities, he rented the drug store which had two back rooms. Mrs. Brinkley opened the drug



store with a small stock of drugs,knick-knacks,cosmetics,and a fountain service. Dr. Brinkley opened an office in one of the rooms,and the other was used for living quarters.

With money inherited through a legacy from Memphis relatives of Mrs.Brinkley,they bought ten lots and built a sixteen room two and one-half story hospital which was opened in August of 1918. He won the confidence of local people in the successful treatment of "flu" patients during the World War I epidemic. His radio station KFKB--"Kansas First,Kansas Best"--"The Sunshine Station in the H eart of the Nation"went on the air in September 1923.

Dr.Brinkley threw his hat in the political race as an independent candidate for governor in 1930. His campaign slogan was,"A pond on every farm;a lake in every county". H e sought the governor's seat again in 1932 and 1934. Had all ballots been correctly marked,he probably would have been elected.

1933 marked the end of his career at Milford. His half million dollar investment was salvaged and his personal effects were moved to Del Rio.Texas.



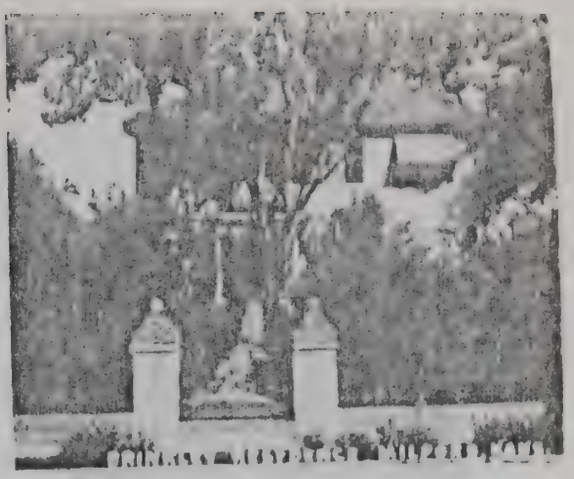




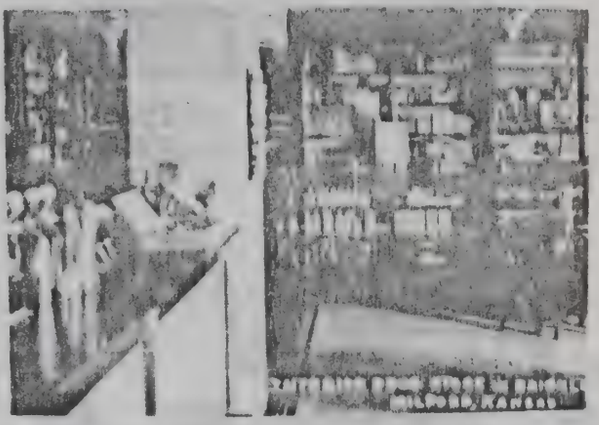














"The Brinkley Goats" ball team,as pictured: Front row: Adolph Steinbruck,Coffman,Jimmy Cross,Norman Steinbruck, Henry Brighton; Back row: Carl Franks,Bill Franks,Dan Roether,James Waller,Howard Wilson,Howard Stittsworth, Harold Stittsworth,Mason McDonald.



Prominent Citizens of Milford during the '20's



Dr. John R. Brinkley



Abe Fawley, Bank President, store keeper. livestock



C.E. Lacer, U.P. Agent 37 yrs. Mayor for 28 yrs.



C.J. Chambers, Bank Vice-Pres. Well driller, stockman



Ken and Eva Rose, telephone operators 1926-1944



Mr. and Mrs. C.E. Lacer



Octogenarians Jack Welsh and Mary Shafer



The Jack Welsh family:Maggie (Breen),Nell (Bregan), Annie (Bregan),Mrs.Welsh,Pat,Molly (Cushing),Jack

Jack Welsh was born in Tipperary,Ireland,June 28,1836. He came to America at the age of seventeen;to Junction City at the age of 40 yrs. He worked a few months for the railroad;then settled on a farm southwest of Milford The farm has been in the Welsh family for 84 yrs. and is now owned by Jack Welsh (a grandson) and his family. Mr. Welsh lived to be 101 yrs.,7 mo.,and 16 da. old.



Mrs.Mary Shafer was born Mar. 12,1849 during the Gold Rush. She came to Milford in 1927 to live with her sons,Lewis and Harvey,and a daughter,Mrs.Cora Stark.Her life has covered a significant span of American history:Her husband served in the Civil War;one son in the Spanish-American War;one son in World War I;one grandson in World War II;two great grandsons in World War II and one in the Korean Conflict. She died at the age of 100 yrs., 11 mo.,and 26 da.

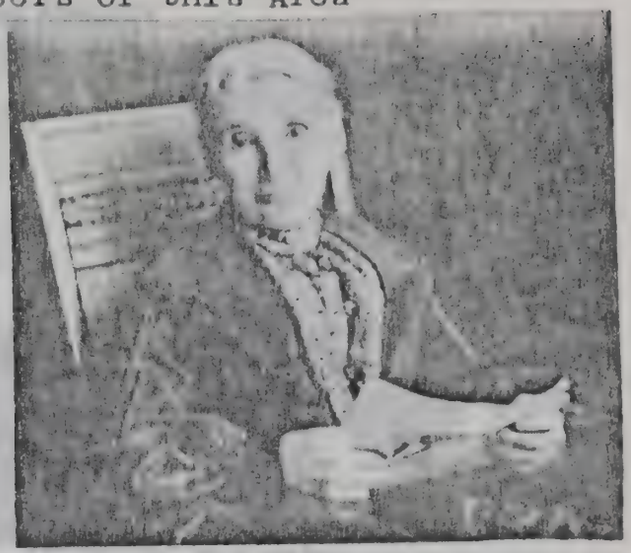




Some of the Pioneers of this Area



Gov. James M. Harvey
of the Vinton community



Mrs. James M. Harvey
(Charlotte Cutter)



Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Bentz
Schenk Cemetery trustee



Johnnie Shaeffer
Operated a cigar factory



Settlers arriving in Kansas



Mr. and Mrs. John Fawley
Storekeeper & stockman











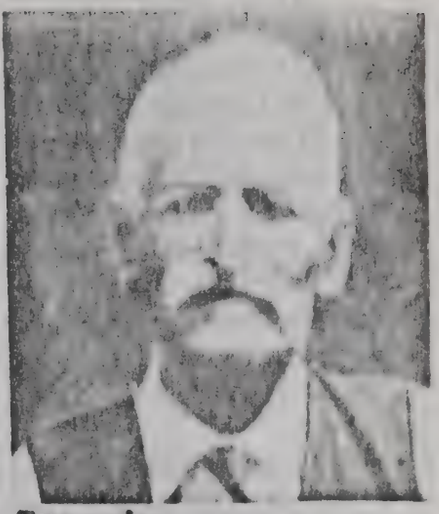


Early Day Residents





Mr.&Mrs.Melchior Barry grandparents of Tom and Bill Woodbury



Herman Tressin





Barry Sisters:Ellen Baskin, Emma Bates,Elizabeth Canrob-erts,Anna Woodbury,Carrie McDonald

Reuben Washburn,M.C.Linscott, George W.Miller,John Rubart



Elizabeth Canroberts,1871 at age of 17

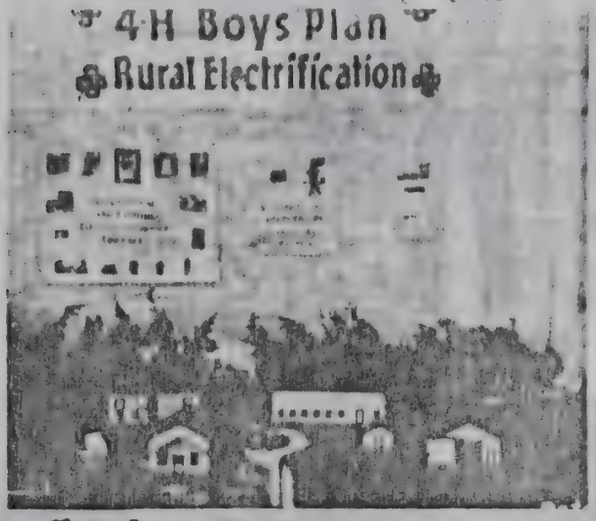


M.J.Rush & wife Cora Carns son Clifford



The Milford 4-H Club was organized in 1927 under the sponsorship of County Agent Paul B.Gwin and Rev. Harper of Milford. The nine charter members were Joan Miller,Mildred Chambers,Howard Harper,Betty Niemoeller, Herbert Niemoeller,Howard Niemoeller,Ruth Niemoeller, Charles Streeter,and Doris Streeter. Election of officers was held at the second meeting. Additional members joined at this meeting. The first officers were:Howard Niemoeller,president;Lyman Denver,secretary;Richard Denver,adult leader. Milford has had a good club during the 34 yrs. of its existence. There have been many outstanding members working To Make the Best Better. There have been many state champions in various phases of 4-H work.

Charles Streeter-Rural Electrification;Frank Marcy-Sheep;Charles Sanford-Poultry;Paul Sanford-Poultry; Wilma Jean McDowell-StyleRevue;Joan Miller-Home Improvement;Raymond Otto-Soil Conservation;Raymond Otto and Sam Miller-Kansas Livestock Judging team in 1948; Sam Miller-Kansas Poultry Judging team in 1949;Janice Miller-WIBW Scholarship winner in 1953;Gary Miller-Kansas Livestock Judging team in 1960;John Miller-adult leadership (in the late '30's).



Charles Streeter's Booth



Joan Miller's Booth 1935



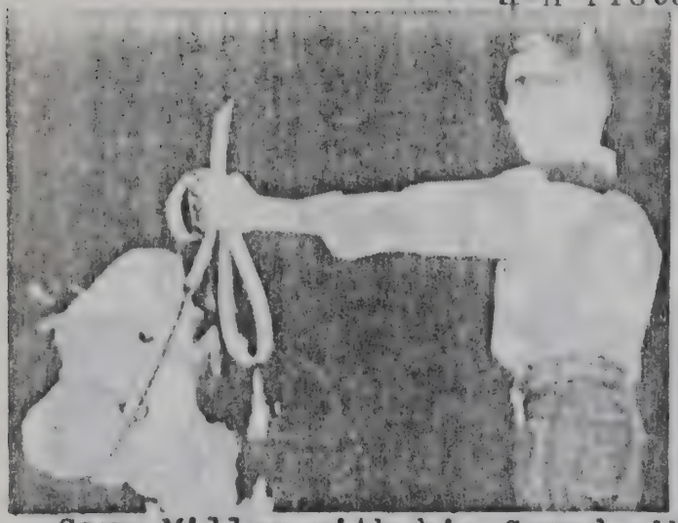
Paul Sanford 1936
National Poultry Champion



Frank Marcy 1933
Sheep Champion



4-H Pictures



Gary Miller with his Grand Champion Baby Beef 1959



Wilma Jean McDowell-State Style Revue Champion 1938



Sam Miller with his Grand Champion Baby Beef 1951



Linda Miller County Cherry Pie Champion 1961

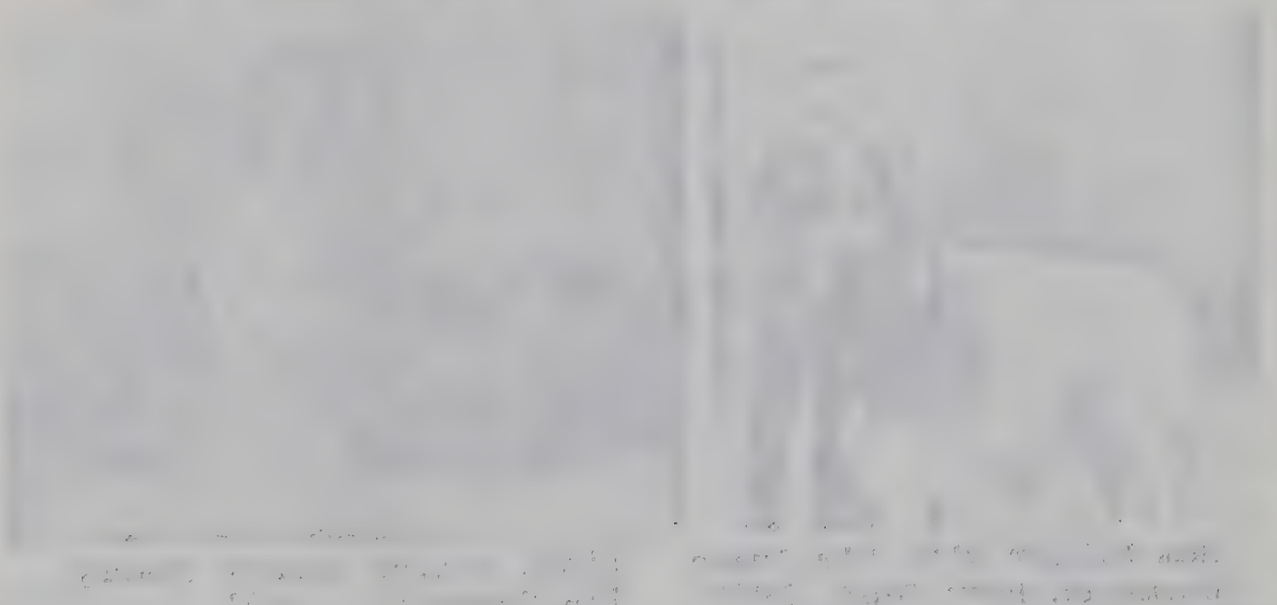


Raymond Otto with Baby Beef 1947



David Younkin, outstanding 4-H boy with his parents







Alida 4-H Club 1958

Wild Life Conservation Champion Club



Front row:Wm.Caspar,Roger Thorpe,Glen Auld,Mark Meyers, Michael Fasse. Second row:Sandra Welsh,Claudia Pearson, Doris Auld,Larry White,Loren Thorpe,Mildred Karmann (leader). Third row:Jack Fasse,Bill Steinford,Sharon Karmann,Judy White,Ed White (leader). Back row:Keith Karmann,H arvey Fasse,Cline Karmann,Lorenz Karmann, Charles Caspar.

Milford Better Homes Club

The Milford Better Homes Club was organized Nov.7,1928 at the Stittsworth home. Miss Ellen Batcheller had conducted classes in clothing and canning as early as 1917 to groups of 12 who met in the Kennett building. The co cost was shared by those attending--this was a forerunner of our Home Demonstration Units.Members for 25 years or more are Fern Mellinger 25;Mabel Wilson 29; Grace Miller 31;Mayme Stittsworth 32;Emma Stittsworth 33. Those who have served on the County Advisory Council through the years are:Josephine McDowell,Lena Walters,Eva Marts,Anna Luttman,Grace Miller,Josephine Fasse,Fern Mellinger,Grace Weaver,Josephine Younkin (who is our present representative). Mrs.Younkin has been an outstanding 4-H leader for a number of years. Grace



Miller served as Chairman of the County Advisory Board in 1951.

Dallas Luttman is currently serving as a member of the Agricultural Board,and Sam Miller is County Chairman of the 4-H Advisory Board.

Sam Miller is a member of the Geary County Soil Conservation Board with Raymond Otto as his assistant.

Milford Better Homes Club
Top row Bernice Chambers
Velma Wilkins
Mrs.L.B.Streeter
Lydia Niemoeller
Edith McDowell
Eva Marts
Lady with boys lived at
Streeter's
Josephine McDowell
Arfie Condray
Florence Brighton
Mrs.Harper



Rural Life Basketball Team

Top Mary Ann Miller
Carol Rush
Ruth Ann Collins
Marie Baresel

Dolores Rush
Rosanne Walters
Janice Miller



4-H Cookies to the Good Samaritan Home

Mrs.Alberta Haferman
Patricia Houston
Beverly Moritz
Linda Miller
Denise Marcy



4-H members made cookies for employees of both Junction City Banks in appreciation of the Kansas 4-H Journal which they sponsor for 4-H families in the county.

Nora Martin's Birthday Party Oct.2,1911



Seated:Kathryn Martin,Gertie Wilson;Front row,Linnie Miller holding Verna,Frank Miller holding Edith,Vesta Miller,Lucile Parker,Henry Brighton,Albert Mellinger, Sinda Mellinger holding Mildred,Letty Heer holding Violet,Henry H eer,Everett Brighton,Hazel Brighton,Ed Brighton holding Ivan;Back row,Mary Martin,Sylvia Sanders,Annie Bregan,Bill Bregan,Nora Martin,Joe Martin, Ben H eer,Caroline Heer







Women's Missionary Society at M.F.Badger Home

Girls sitting in front,Verda Mellinger,Dorothy Denver, Grace Mellinger;Lillian Denver standing in front;Next row,Mrs.C.R.Sanford holding Grace,Elizabeth Badger,Liz Mellinger,Kate Denver holding Lyman,Nell Young;Middle row,Becky Morris,Cora Beard,Mary Martin;Back row,Anna Stittsworth,Myrtle Badger,Lettie Badger,Mrs.W.L.Martin, Mrs.John Mellinger,Mrs.L.B.Streeter,Cora Heath;M.F.Badger in background



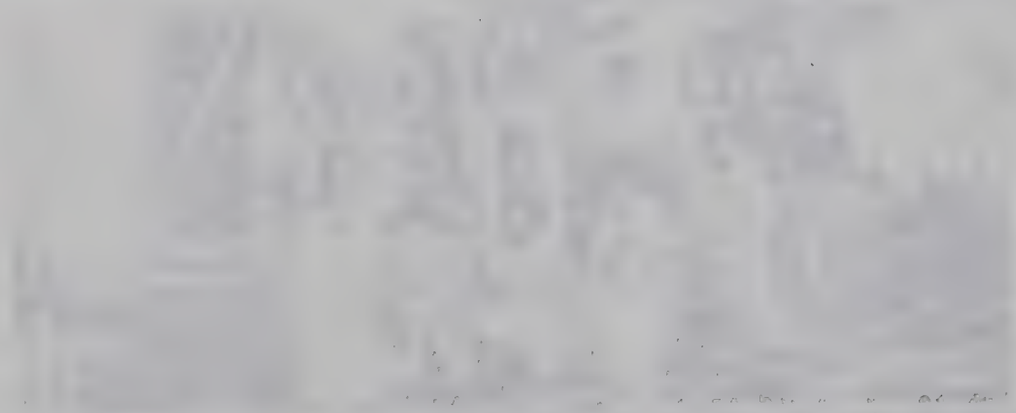
Ladies' Aid

Children,Margaret Jones,Esther Roether,3 & 4 not identified,Ruth Walters,Addie Helvey;Seated,Barbara Bartell, Annie Irion,Candus Worth,Tilda Day,Mrs.Dan Roether;Back row,Mrs.W.L.Martin,?,Mrs.Geo.Helvey,Belle Jones,Eva Taylor,Stella Bentz,Jennie Roether



Missionary-Front,Laura Woodbury,Bernice Woodbury,Thelma Woodbury,Mayme Stittsworth,Florence Brighton;Mary Denver,Lucy Strauss,Mrs.Streeter;Ina Sanford,Mary Badger, Mattie Seley,Kate Denver,Annie Irion,Hazel Crowl,Goldie Badger







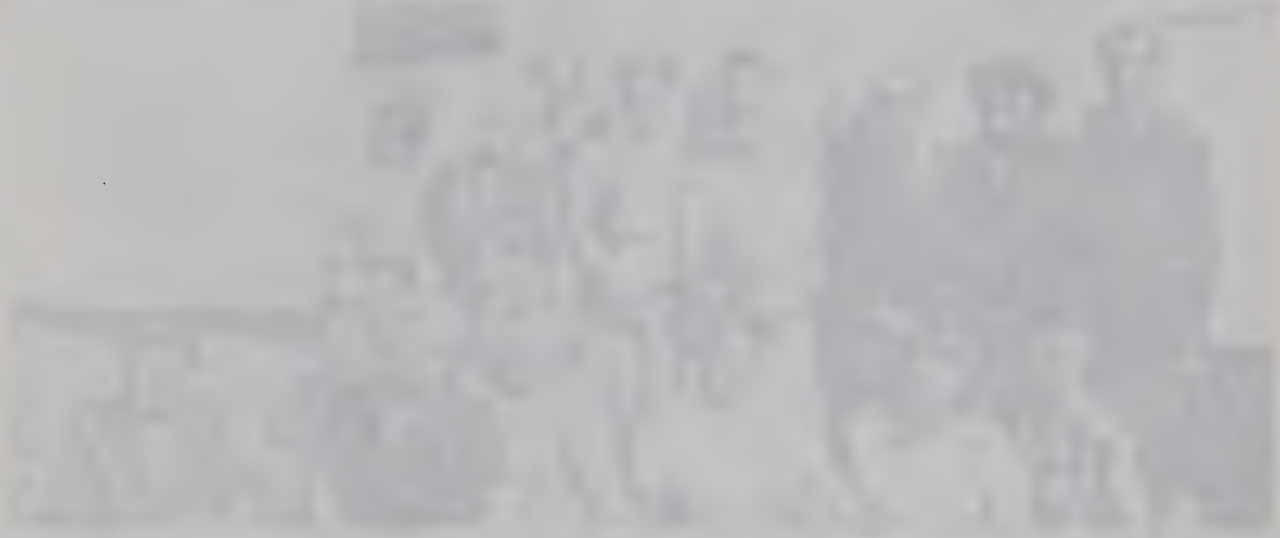
Missionary 1932: (in order of face)Kate Denver,Mrs.John Mellinger,Mildred Chambers,Mayme Stittsworth,Annie Irion, Edith Streeter,Bernice Chambers,Laura Woodbury,Grace Wilson,Ruth Denver,Bernice Woodbury,Florence Brighton,Ina Sanford,Mary Badger,Mrs.Streeter,Mrs.McClure,Mrs.Schouren

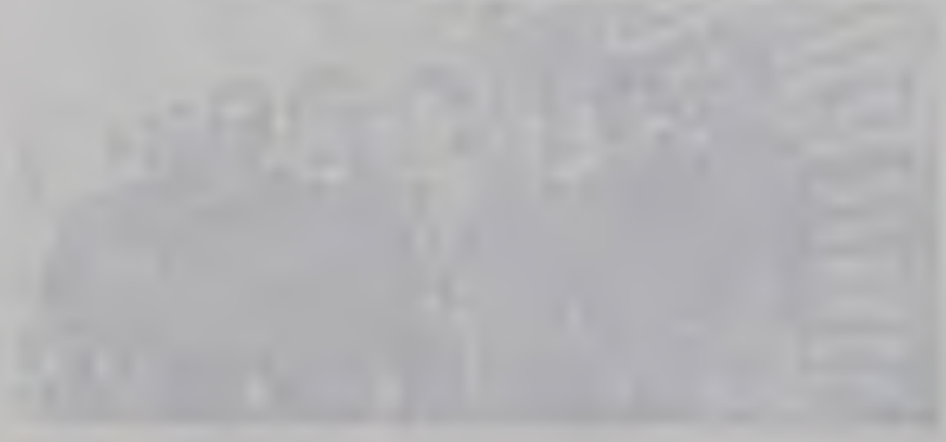


Missionary 1952:Seated,Ann Lawson,Lola Brighton,Edith Wilson,Jennie Brighton,Bernice Woodbury,Nadine Segan, Leora Whitmore; Emma Stittsworth,Kate Denver,Mayme Stittsworth,Anna Milholland,Bernice Chambers,Wilmia Arkell,Laura Zernickow,Em Seley,Fern Mellinger,Edith Budden,Grace Miller holding Craig Lawson.









Missionary,in order of faces:Mary Badger,Mattie Seley, Bernice Woodbury,Laura Woodbury,Mrs.Streeter,Em Seley, Grace Wilson,Kate Denver,Mrs.John Mellinger,Mary Braden, Florence Brighton,Ina Sanford,Edith McDowell;Billy Woodbury standing in front



Mrs. Stittsworth's Birthday Party:Front,Velma Wilkins, Mary Nixon Mellinger,Mrs.Burgess,Anna Stittsworth,Belle Molesworth,Mary Martin,H oward Miller;Back,Ina Sanford, Cora Beard,Lucy Chambers,Linnie Miller,Kate Denver,Emma Seley,Kit Baird,Grace Wilson,Mrs.Streeter,Laura Woodbury, Mary Badger,Bernice Chambers,Bertha Scheuren,



Mother-Daughter Tea at High School 1953:Front,Dona Walters,Julia Kidd,Ruth Johnston,Mrs.Auzie Hunter,Mrs.Russell Stevens; ?,Olive Roether,Goldie Johnston,Louise Puck, Lena Walters,Fern Mellinger;Back,Minnie Brown,Marie Johnston,Jennie Bentz,Myra Crippen *Picture Reversed*

Pictured on the next page,front row:Mildred Chambers,Dorothy Badger,Florence Brighton,Laura Woodbury,Doris Streeter,Jennie Brighton;Back row,Mrs.Harper,Pauline Denver,Bernice Chambers,Ruth Denver,Bernice Woodbury,Fern Braden, Clara Tressin,Velma Wilkins,Goldie Badger









5 Generations of Waller's June 1928--Mary Waller, Jim Waller, Edna Roether, Tom and daughter



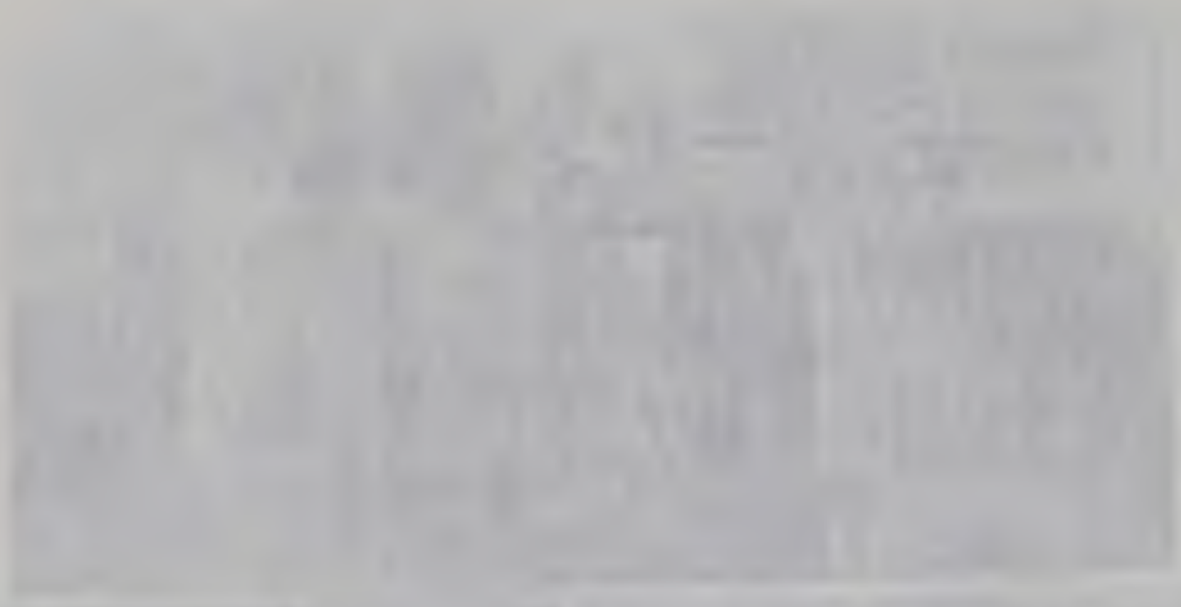
Ezra and Harry Bentz; Ida Miller, Emma Coltharp 1931



Mr. &Mrs. Theo. Steinbruck, Fon, Norman, Elsie, Fred, Gussie, Dolph 1908

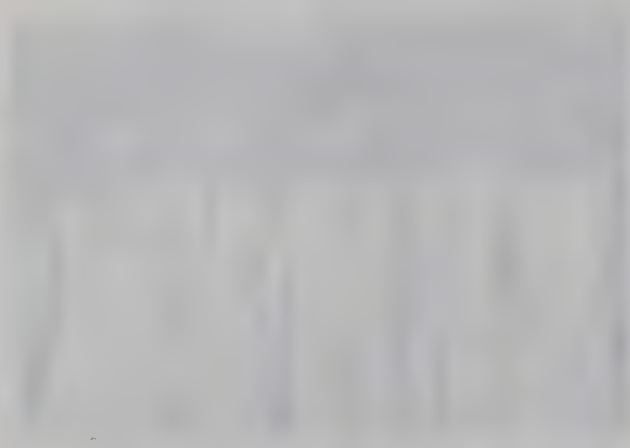


The Martin Sisters 1928 Kathryn and Marjorie, Annie Coffey, Mother, Flora Hickman, Linnie













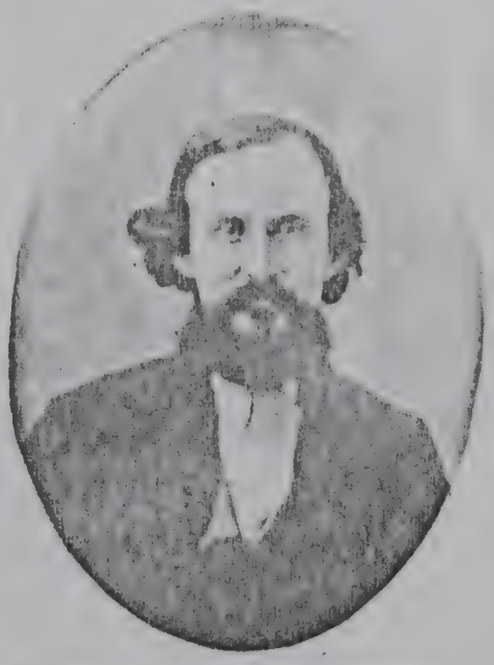
G A R Post # 284

Milford,Kansas

Grand Army of the Republic men pictured: Front row: Asel Griffin,M.C.Linscott,Charley Day,not identified, Rube Washburn,not identified,Johnnie Shaeffer,Fred Dumbauld,Charley Martin; Back row: Mr.Nixon,Jake Rudolph, Mr.Grover,next two not identified,Mr.Richardson,Mr. Steffin,O.B.Heath,Gilson W.Waller

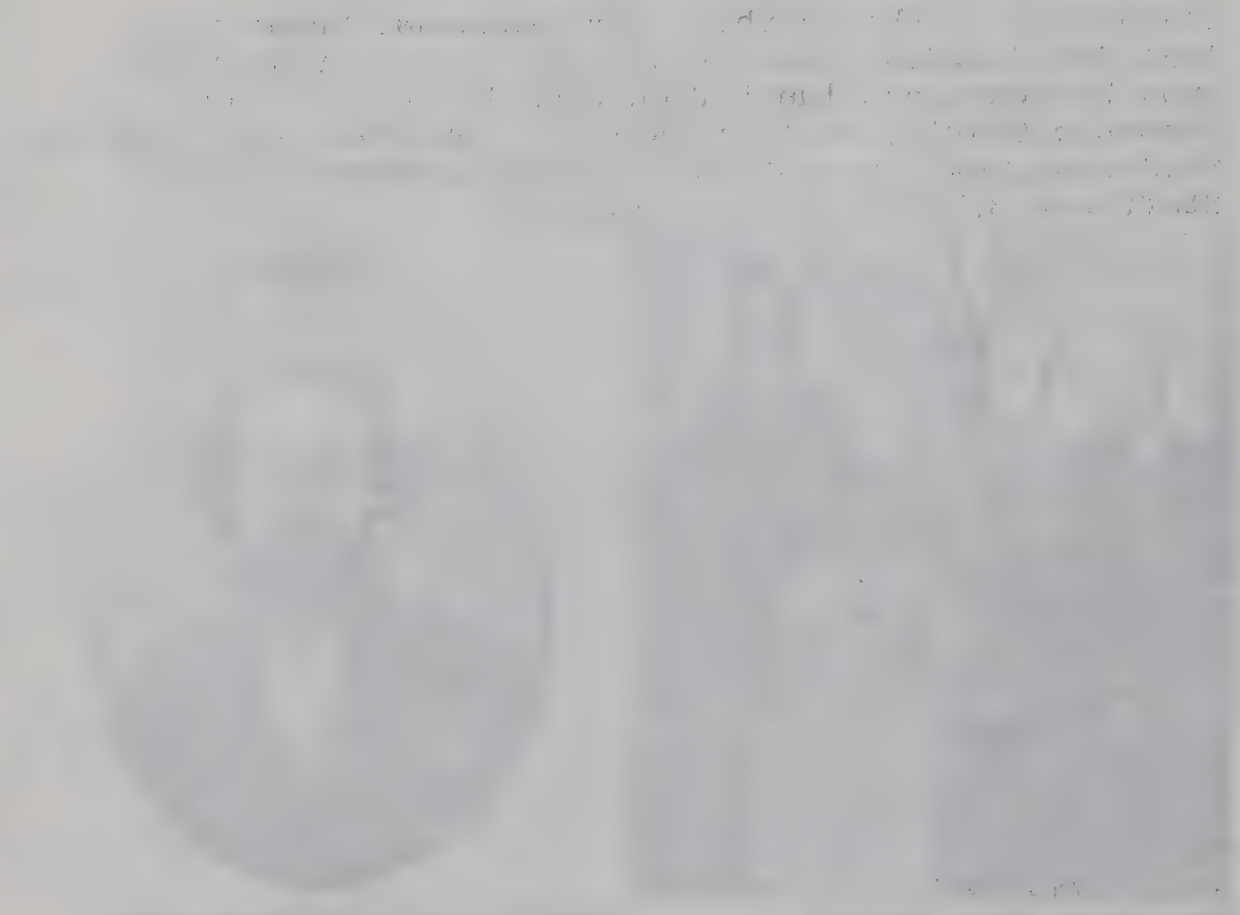


Mr.& Mrs.John Fawley
Sons Ashby and Abe
Grandson Howard



Jack Kennett,storekeeper
and Notary Public





Women's Relief Corps 1890

Milford,Kansas

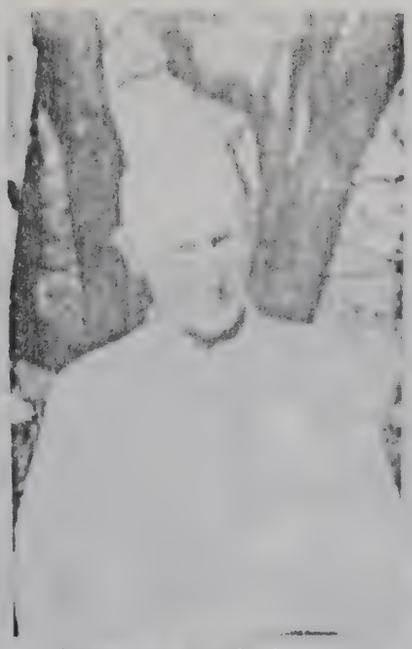
Seated: Sarah Dumbauld (Mrs.Bob Wilson),Etta Griffin (Mrs.William Grammer),Nettie Bunch (Mrs.Heath),Cora Bunch (Mrs.Heath); Standing: Mrs.Tilda Day,second one not identified,Mrs.Asel Griffin,Mrs.Charley Martin, Mrs.William Hood,Mrs.Jane Washburn,not identified, Mrs.Mary Waller







Mrs.Emma Knabe 87



Harry Brighton



Ada Mellinger



Mary Bentz
School Cook



William Walters
U.S.Army Musician



Elsie Waller



Denise & Sharon
Marcy



Francis Warnock
J.W.Waller
115 lbs.from river



Anna Stittsworth





The Jonathan Roether family: Front row: Daniel, Sarah (Tressin), Elizabeth, Jonathan, Ben; Back row: Mary (Brewer), Susan (Milholland), Belle (Molesworth), Elizabeth (Mellinger), Emma (Chubbie).





The Ed Mellinger family: Front row: Pearl (Budden), Emma (Seley), Eunice (Billingham), Ed, Grace (Wilson), Kate (Denver), John ("Carter"); Back row: Oma (Walters), Liz (Braden), Christie (Miller), Georgia (Adams), Elizabeth Roether, Sade (Stittsworth), Mary Belle ("Mayme" Young).

Picture Reversed





The John Shandy family--Front row:Hazel,Edith,JohnSr, Mrs.Shandy,Earl,Gladys;Middle,John,Art,Ethel,George, Frank; Back,Clifford,Carl



D.D.Denver,Sr.,family: Back row,Kenneth,D.D.Sr.,Kate, Lyman; Front,Lillian (Herzog),Richard,Pauline (Smith), D.D.Jr.,Gerald,Dorothy (Waters)







At Henry Miller's, June 1959: Seated, Emma Miller Cook, Henry Miller; Standing, Kathryn Martin Beard, Verna Miller Wick, Linnie Martin Miller, Dale, Howard, George



The John Mellinger family, 1946: Kate (Denver), Verda (Riker), Albert, Ethel (McDonald), Fianna (Pierson), Ada, John Jr., Mae (Cookson), Ida (Marts), Charles







Relatives who came, with well-filled baskets, to help Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Walters celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary at their farm home in the Pleasant View community.





The Herman Cott family



Mr.& Mrs.Archie Stittsworth
and granddaughter Lola



The Chambers Well Drill



Mr.& Mrs.Art Nixon



M.C. and Mary Linscott



Mr.& Mrs.John Mellinger,Sr.

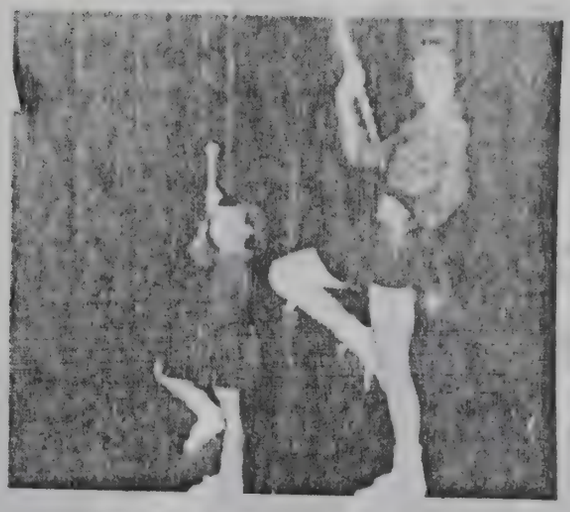




Drum Corps grades 5-12
Merchants' Exposition 1961



School Lunch 1959
Mary Bentz,head cook 6 yrs.
Program rated third in stat



Nancy Denver,Drum Majorette
Denise Otto,Mascot



School cooks-Mary Bentz at right;Ernestine Green and Katherine Miller,helpers



Twin brothers marry sisters
Mr.& Mrs.Herman Karmann
Mr.& Mrs.Herbert Karmann

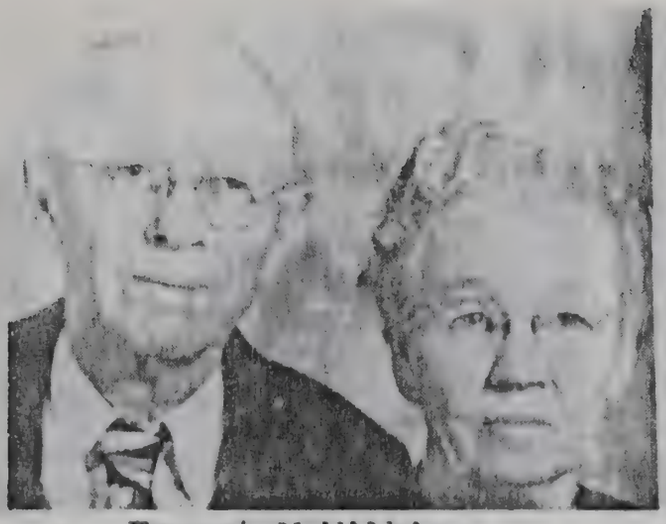


The G.H.Cott family
Sons Carl and Herman
Daughters Louise and Helena









Ernest M.Wilkins
Velma M.Roper
June 29,1910



Earl K.Chambers
Bernice A.Canroberts
Sept.19,1908



William H.Stittsworth
Sade Mellinger
Mar.12,1896



Bert Moritz
Antonio Moske
Feb. 20,1901

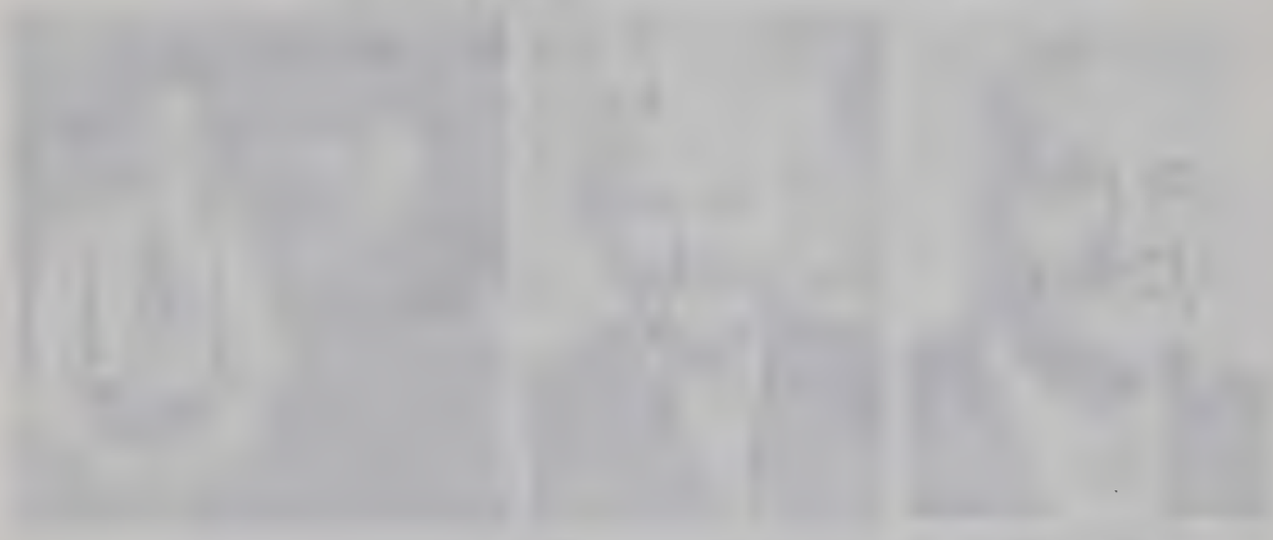


Henry Miller
Linnie Martin
June 12,1909



Henry Steppe
Daisy Kuhn
Aug.16,1909









Henry Sylvester
Mary Rudolph
Dec. 29,1886



Ed Van Der Stoldt
Hattie Reed
Mar. 9.1904



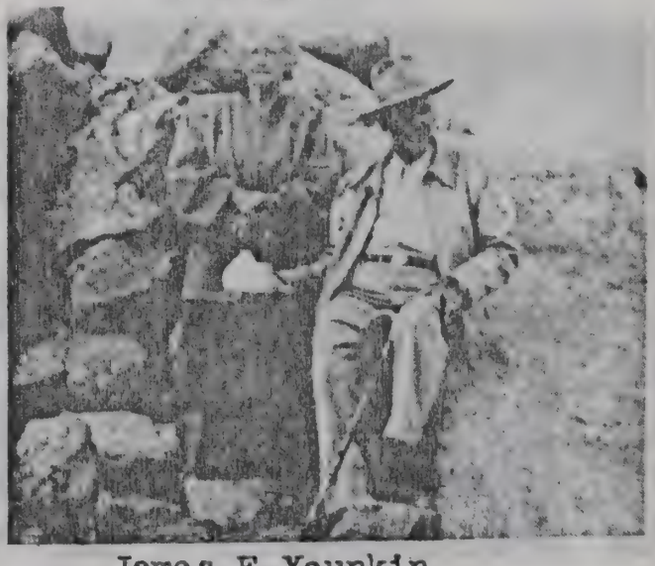
Paul Hartner
Bertha Sylvester
Dec. 29,1910



Harry Steinford
Esther Denver
Feb. 16.1910



Fred Trumpp
Emma Sylvester
Dec. 29,1910



James E.Younkin
Rosa Lee Ferguson
Oct. 4,1896















Clarence Seley
Lib Ellsworth
Nov. 17,1895



Clayton Seley
Emma Mellinger
Nov. 25,1906



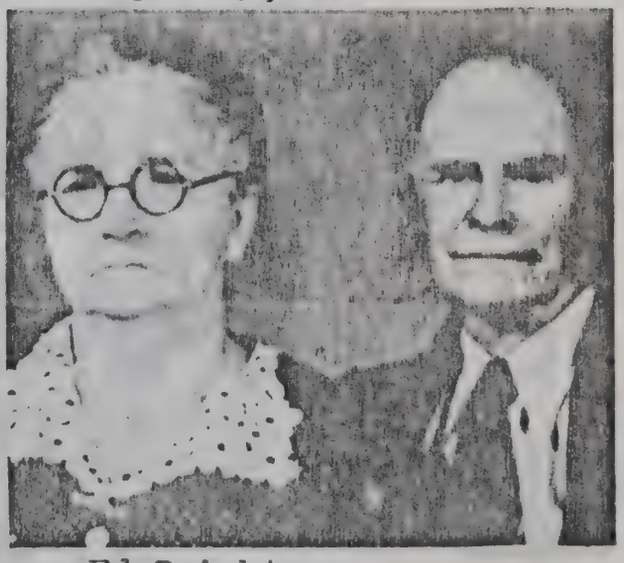
James Budden
Pearl Mellinger
Apr. 4,1907



Walter Adams
Nellie Gaston
Apr. 15,1899



Theodore Steinbruck
Phoebe Elizabeth Warnock
Feb. 16, 1884



Ed Brighton
Florence Jameson
Dec. 18, 1893









Gilson W.Waller
Mary Ann Thompson
Oct. 13,1859



Reuben Washburn
Mary Jane Witter
Apr. 10,1864



Albert B.Walters
Rosa Rush
Aug. 21,1877



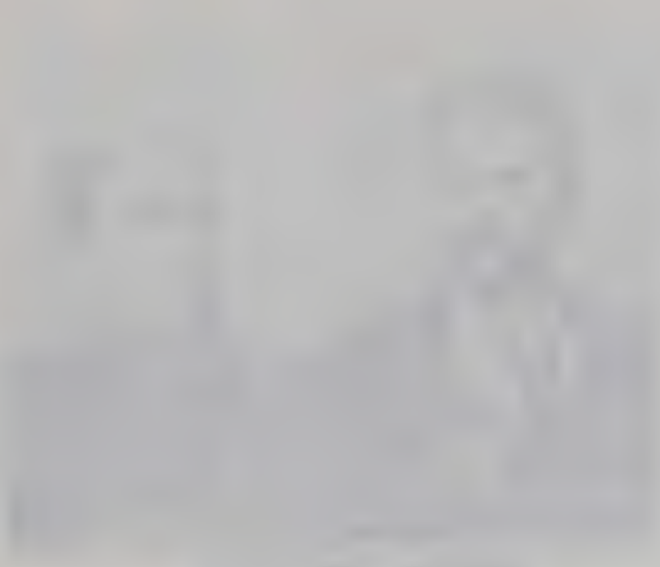
Charley L.Martin
Mary Pearson
May 24.1866



Dion D.Denver
Kate Mellinger
Dec. 24,1891



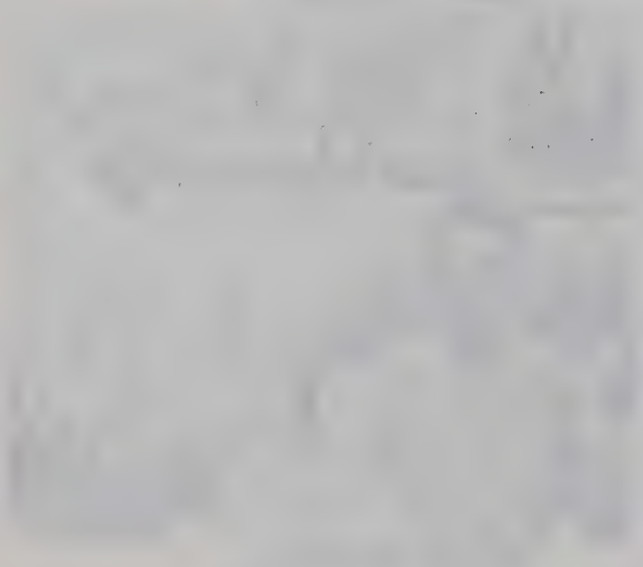
Henry Bartell
Barbara Faidley















Albert Mellinger
Sinda Sanders
Jan. 9,1909



Charley S.Johnston
Ruth Warner
Apr. 16,1903



Oliver Snell
Carrie Grover
May 2,1898



Henry Heintz
Belle Richardson
Nov. 24,1886



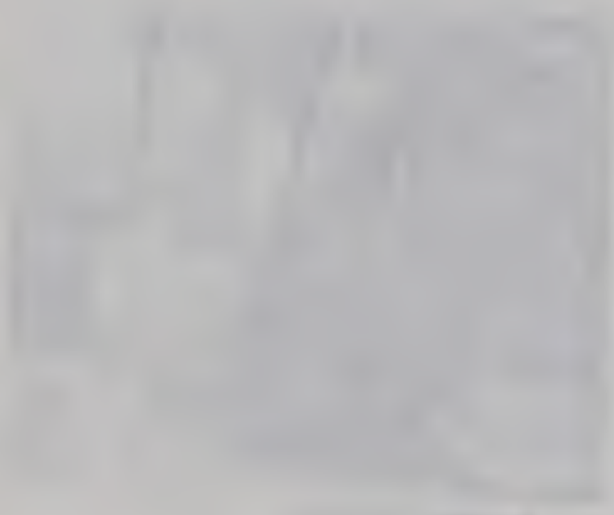
William Strauss
Lucy Southwell
July 3,1901



A.B.Walters-Rosa Rush
J.B.Walters-Lena Frey
married at 50th Anniversary



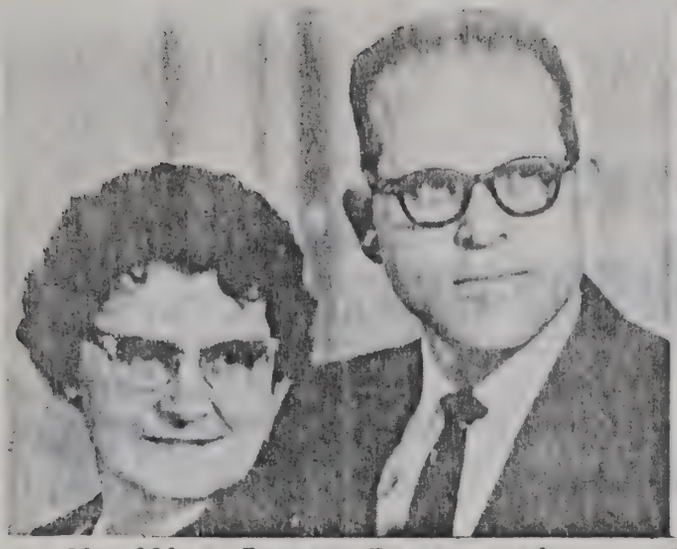












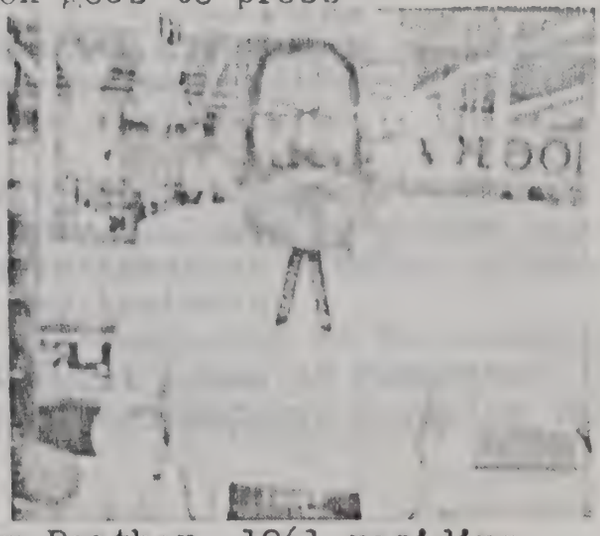
Mr.&Mrs.Lyman Denver who give so freely of time and talent to the community



The Harry Brighton Family Death claimed Harry as our book goes to press



Mr.&Mrs.Tom Roether 1954 "Territorial Centennial"



Tom Roether 1961 residing in Topeka;a native of Milford



Lester Swartz, Terry Manz, Chas.Munson, Gary Miller, Coach Mike Stroud represented Kansas at Chicago.1960 International Livestock Judging



Jack Welsh and K.W.Manz Local farmers



Milford 1961





Main Street 1961 Crider Service Station 1961

In connection with the Centennial observance of Kansas statehood,people of Milford have been active in paying tribute to those who built the community:

1. Horn of Plenty Thanksgiving Buffet Supper at Church
2. Kansas Day Centennial Dinner,followed by slides portraying historical spots in Kansas;a display of Kansas relics and of early day costumes
3. Home Demonstration Unit costume party at May meeting
4. Preparation of this Centennial issue of Favorite Recipes with local history and pictures covering the past 106 years

Dates of vital interest to local residents:

April 17,1961--The "Go Ahead Order" on the Milford Dam Project

April 29,1961--Date set for the election on the question of Relocation

May we be divinely guided toward the right decisions for the welfare of all.

We beg your tolerance for our shortcomings. It is our sincere wish that this issue bring fond memories and kind thoughts as you travel life's pathway.

The Book Committee

